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NATO MEMBERS 'CONCERNED' AT SALT POSTPONEMENT

LD261241 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 81 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Serious Concern"]

[Text] Paris--The U.S. West European NATO partners are seriously concerned at Washington's intention to again postpone ratification of the Soviet-American strategic offensive arms limitation treaty (SALT II). That is the main gist of a report from Brussels by AFP correspondent (E. Markius).

Diplomats in NATO headquarters, he writes, make no secret of their concern over statements by C. Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary-designate, to the effect that the resolution of the question of SALT II should be postponed for at least 6 months. As the AFP correspondent was told by one high-ranking diplomat, "it should not be forgotten that NATO's decision on deploying in Western Europe 572 Pershing II and cruise missiles capable of reaching the Soviet Union's territory was adopted on the basis that the SALT II treaty would be ratified." As a result, the diplomat added, "this could prompt certain West Europeans to review their decision on the deployment of Euromissiles."

Washington's postponement of the ratification of the SALT II treaty, in the opinion of diplomats, is probably blocking all disarmament talks, including the talks on reducing medium-range nuclear missile systems in Europe, on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe and on banning nuclear weapons tests and banning chemical weapons and so forth.

People at NATO headquarters, the AFP correspondent goes on, recall that Danish Foreign Minister K. Olesen has already made clear the dissatisfaction which exists among the U.S. Western partners by reporting that the Social Democratic parties of Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway and Denmark expressed concern at a meeting held in Amsterdam over the fact that the United States is insisting on new SALT II talks.

AFP recalls that Belgium has postponed the official adoption of a decision on the deployment of cruise missiles on its territory until the results of the Soviet-American talks on medium-range missiles in Europe become known, while the Netherlands has postponed a decision on this score until the end of the year.

Washington's decision to postpone ratification of the SALT II treaty, in the opinion of experts at NATO headquarters in Brussels, will also give the FRG new arguments in favor of resisting the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles on its territory.

As another AFP report stresses, reports coming in from various West European capitals indicate that fears are being expressed there over attempts to restore American "leadership" in the form in which it existed in the fifties and sixties. In particular, AFP notes, the Netherlands, Denmark and Belgium are preparing to resist pressure aimed at obtaining a 3-percent increase in their military budgets, on which Washington is insisting but which they regard as impossible to carry out in view of the economic crisis.

PLAN FOR SCANDINAVIAN NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE LAUDED

LD261551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 81 p 4

[Article by M. Kostikov: "Topical Idea for North Europe; Disarmament Is a Requirement of the Times"]

[Text] Widespread discussion of ways of creating a nuclear-free zone in this region had developed again in the north European countries. The discussion's political spearhead is the richochet from the growing alarm among these states' public over the potential danger contained in the Washington and NATO course with respect to West Europe as a whole and its northern part in particular.

It is indicative that during this discussion a whole series of leading Scandinavian politicians, members of ruling cabinets, leaders of the biggest political parties and representatives of public organizations are for the first time advocating implementation of the idea of a nuclear-free zone. In their opinion this status for north Europe is a real opportunity to remain outside the sphere of conflicts and confrontation and to protect this region against the political pressure of certain NATO circles, which are anxious to drag the Scandinavian countries into their military preparations.

The idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in north Europe was born in the late fifties and early sixties. However, the proposals advanced at that time, including the Swedish "Unden plan," were not further developed. But the very fact that the question had been raised obliged Scandinavian politicians to think seriously about the problem of the northern region's security and pushed them toward the search for the most acceptable plan, taking into account both the features of north Europe and the overall international situation.

It was precisely this approach which largely distinguished the initiative with which Finnish President Urho Kavela Kekkonen came out almost 18 years ago. "The proclamation of the north as a nuclear-free zone," he noted, "would considerably stabilize the situation of all states in this part of the world. This would protect the northern countries completely against any speculations caused by the development of nuclear strategy and would guarantee that international tension did not extend to this zone."

Anticipating in many respects the future course of events and changes in world politics, U.K. Kekkonen was already saying at that time that, under the conditions of the threat of the spread of nuclear weapons and further nuclear arms race, the north's nonnuclear states could safeguard their own security only by binding themselves with regional agreements renouncing the production and deployment of nuclear weapons, while simultaneously rejecting in their policy everything which might lead to the aggravation of tension.

The opponents of this idea, primarily those in the Scandinavian NATO countries, stated in discussing the question that, since all north European countries have no nuclear weapons and all oppose their acquisition, a nuclear-free zone has allegedly already formed of its own accord historically. However, it is precisely to ensure that the experience of history continues to work for the common weal that U.K. Kekkonen proposed that the northern countries undertake mutual pledges to create a nuclear-free zone.

Justifying the vital need for this step, the Finnish president said that, as long as the absence of nuclear weapons in the northern countries is based on one-sided promises, there is a danger that they could be revised.

At the time their attitude to U.K. Kekkonen's idea was evidently affected by a certain passiveness in some Scandinavian politicians, caused by the far-fetched argument about the allegedly limited opportunities for small countries in resolving world problems. Nonetheless, Finland's proposals were destined to remain on the agenda not only of European but also of world politics.

The end of the sixties and then the seventies were marked by important, positive advances in the international arena. A series of international and bilateral treaties and agreements on banning nuclear weapons tests in the three media, on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, on the prevention of nuclear war and a number of other enactments proved important steps toward the normalization of the international climate. A graphic event of that time was the holding of the conference on security and cooperation in Helsinki. But, as time showed, in the period during which the conference was held and after the adoption of its Final Act, influential U.S. forces and, with their support, militarist circles in West Europe did not moderate their efforts aimed at preventing the advance of the policy of relaxation of tension and preventing it from being supplemented by military detente.

In May 1978 Finnish President U.K. Kekkonen issued a confirmation of his peace-loving initiative. Proposing as a basis the idea he had voiced formerly of creating a nuclear-free zone, Kekkonen stated that under conditions where talks on disarmament issues are dragging on and the development of military equipment increases the danger of a nuclear conflict in north Europe, "the northern countries should, in their own interests, initiate talks among themselves and together with the great powers on the question of arms control." Their main task, in the Finnish president's opinion, should be the compilation of a special agreement concerning north Europe which would afford the northern countries maximum protection against the impact of nuclear strategy in general and new nuclear weapons technology in particular.

Thus U.K. Kekkonen's time-tested idea in a renovated and developed form, taking into account the changing military-political situation and the national interests of the north European countries, was submitted for the verdict of all interested states and received the name of the "Kekkonen plan."

The Finnish president's initiative met with a broad response in Scandinavia and beyond. The many warnings and objections, frequently far-fetched, which accumulated after the discussion of Kekkonen's initial proposal have been eliminated. In the face of the mounting nuclear threat even some opponents of this idea have been obliged to admit that Finland's far-sighted proposal accords with the national interests and policy of safeguarding the security of all north European countries and in no way impedes any of these countries in pursuing the foreign policy it has chosen. And although the attitudes of the northern countries' governments toward Kekkonen's proposal were far from identical, the importance of this initiative for the region is hard to question.

NATO's well-known decisions providing for the deployment of new medium-range nuclear missile weapons in West Europe are fraught with an increased danger of war on the continent and consequently in the Scandinavian countries. Pentagon and NATO pressure has been stepped up on Denmark and Norway with a view to increasing their military expenditure and deploying U.S. heavy military equipment on these countries' territory. All this has forced several Scandinavian politicans to assess in a new light both U.S. policy in Europe and Finland's proposal. Many of these politicians are concerned that these measures of the Pentagon's could emasculate the defense policy principles of NATO's Scandinavian members and in particular the principle of nondeployment of nuclear weapons or foreign troops on their territory in peacetime. Nor can the Scandinavians fail to be put on the alert by the interest which the NATO strategists have been displaying recently in the northern regions of neutral Sweden. There are already signs--and quite alarming ones--of this. Yet it was against the possibility of just such a turn of events that the Finnish president warned when he again advanced, a little over 2 years ago, a plan for creating a nonnuclear north Europe.

Realistically minded politicians and public figures in the north European countries are aware that the further expansion of NATO's militarist preparations in West and northwest Europe jeopardize peace and stability in Scandinavia and could lead to the subordination of its countries' national interests to NATO's bellicose aims. It is for precisely this reason that the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone is winning an increasing number of supporters, while the opportunities for its implementation are being discussed animatedly in a number of political and public circles in the north European countries.

From the very first Finland's proposal met with a positive assessment in the Soviet Union. It was assessed as a step promoting the safeguarding of peace not only in north Europe but also over the entire continent. There is no need to prove that this initiative, which fully accords with the principles and goals of the Helsinki Final Act, is aimed at preserving and continuing the policy of detente.

In contrast to the Western nuclear powers, the Soviet Union has frequently stated its readiness to guarantee the nuclear-free zone status in north Europe and to take part in a constructive discussion of the proposal to create such a zone if the states potentially included express interest in this. Our country's consistent stance was reaffirmed yet again during the recent Soviet-Finnish summit meeting in Moscow and then during the visit paid to the USSR by Norwegian Foreign Minister K. Frydenlund.

Coming out in support of the proposal to create a nuclear-free zone in north Europe, the USSR proceeds from the irrefutable fact that the security of this region can in no way be safeguarded by galvanizing the military blocs there but by undertaking a joint quest for decisions which leave it outside the sphere of conflicts.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD232044 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 23 Jan 81

["International Situation--Questions and Answers" Program, with moderator Valeriy Ivanovich Kosovan, political observer of central television and all-union radio; Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin, international affairs journalist; and Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, TASS political observer]

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] And so Ronald Reagan, the new, 40th president of the United States, has entered office.

Reagan Inaugural Address

The official inauguration ceremony has taken place, the oath has been sworn and the traditional speech has been delivered. The ceremonial parades and magnificent balls have been held. Now, when the dust has settled, so to speak, it might be possible to make some sort of preliminary assessment of this moment in the political life of the United States. This idea is expressed in letters from listeners Tikhonovskiy from Smolensk, Ivanova from Moscow, Arinbekov from Kazakhstan, Polyakov from Nizhniy Tagil, Kucharov from Riga, Smelenchuk from Kirov and a number of their comrades.

This, in particular, is what Comrade Tikhonovskiy writes in his letter; while in power for 4 years, the now former President Carter and his assistants did nothing good for ordinary Americans and did not fulfill their numerous election promises. Much was done, however, to damage detente in order to satisfy the U.S. military-industrial complex. First and foremost this includes postponement of the ratification of the SALT II treaty, a record military budget, the notorious Directive 59, and the pushing forward of plans for the creation of new types of armaments, including nuclear arms, and so on. In this connection Comrade Tikhonovskiy asks: What can be expected from the new U.S. administration? We showed your letter, Comrade Tikhonovskiy, and letters from other listeners, to the international affairs journalist Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin, Oleg Nikolayevich, over to you.

[Anichkin] Let's not rush too far forward, but make, as you said, a preliminary assessment. We will speak of first impressions. What stands out most of all is the atmosphere of sumptousness and high ceremony in the U.S. capital, Washington, and other places, too. Great efforts were made to create a festive atmosphere in the country, to which end money was not spared. According to the latest calculations at least $8 million was spent on this political show.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, that is more than double the money spent by Carter 4 years ago, isn't it?

[Anichkin] That's right, but there is yet another thing that has to be taken into account. This record expenditure is being incurred by an administration which earlier made loud declarations of its intention to carry out a strict economy drive. Naturally, one wonders what the need was for such sumptuousness and high ceremony. Apparently, it was not solely in order to go down in history, although that was one aim. All in all it was apparent that the new administration wanted to show its resolve and its readiness to overcome the most complex questions, and to show that it is full of strength and energy. In other words, the new President and his entourage wanted to stress in every possible way that a time of renewal had come for the Americans. It was no accident that all this ceremony in Washington took place under the slogan "A new start for America." This is a direct hint at an attempt to repeat the success of Roosevelt of 50 years ago.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, and is that really the case? What did President Reagan have to say in his inaugration speech?

[Anichkin] Well, despite the buoyant mood of the new administration and despite its attempts to instill hope and certainty in Americans over their new prospects, the President had to make several quite frank confessions. I shall quote a few sentences from the President's speech. For example: The United States is now coming up against economic disasters on a huge scale. We are suffering from the most protracted and one of the worst inflations in all our national history.

Further on, he said: This inflation is reducing to nothing all our decisions in the economic sphere, is stifling initiative and crushing both the young, who are full of energy, and the aged. Factories standing idle are throwing out their workers, condemning them to unemployment, poverty and humiliation. I could quote several more excerpts from that speech, but we do not have enough time. The thing is, however, that the President is putting domestic economic problems as the first priority of his administration.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, I recall that roughly the same thing was said by former President Carter in his inauguration speech in 1977. Unfortunately, I don't have the quote from Carter's speech at hand.

[Anichkin] Don't worry, I can quote one of Carter's statements from his speech on entering office on 20 January 1977. This is what he said then: I have entered office at the height of the gravest economic recession in the past 40 years. According to the latest statistics, over 7 million people are unable to find any work. Because of the high level of unemployment and factories standing idle, each American family is losing on average about $2,000, while the country's budget deficit is growing by billions of dollars.

As you can see, both of them are saying approximately the same things, the only difference being that one of them is issuing a reminder about the terrible inflation which, as he said, is threatening to shake the very foundations of the lives of millions of Americans, while the other one spoke of hopeless unemployment. In other words, the U.S. economy has both problems at the same time which, incidentally, were not in evidence before.

Prescriptions for U.S. Economy

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, what prescriptions are the Republicans offering to get out of this situation?

[Anichkin] All in all, nothing original, nothing new. And this again is despite the fact that much is now being spoken in the United States about a time of renewal. The President himself, incidentally, said quite frankly, and here I quote: In order to put the economic ills from which we are suffering on the retreat, we shall need quite a few days, weeks, or even months.

The President and his economic advisers suggest two simple methods of solving practically all the country's economic problems. The first of these is to sharply reduce expenditure on maintaining the apparatus of state which has swollen in recent years to an unprecedented size. And literally on his very first day of work the President issued the command to freeze the recruitment of new staff to state federal institutions.

Secondly, the new administration intends to considerably reduce the rate of taxation with the aim of stimulating purchasing power, which in turn, as you know, should lead to a growth in demand. As a result, it is thought, all this should stir production into life and the recession, so they think, will be defeated, unemployment will be reduced, and possibly the rate of inflation will be slowed down even.

[Kosovan] It's true: These prescriptions are not new ones. But it is possible to get out of the impasse by such methods?

[Anichkin] The measures are definitely not new ones; they are old. They have been used on more than one occasion in the past, by both the Republicans and the Democrats. The result in almost all cases was the same: The effect was temporary and slight. Both Carter and his predecessors used a strict-economy regime and reduced the staff of federal bodies. In the end, however, the apparatus once again became swollen and no one was able to halt the process. We shall see what happens this time.

As far as reducing taxes is concerned, this method has been used on more than one occasion in the past, too, and with the very same result: Ultimately, taxes rose again. It must be borne in mind that taxes are one of the chief sources of the budget income of the United States. It is very difficult to believe that a reduction in the rate of taxation, given the incredibly high expenditure on military purposes, will lead to a slackening of tension in the economy. Moreover, such a measure often promotes an increase in the budget deficit, which at present stands approximately at $40 billion. So it is unlikely that the promises to balance the budget can be fulfilled. Regarding these prescriptions for overcoming economic difficulties, I should like to quote the New York TIMES. It writes as follows: The importance of the chief subject of Reagan's speech--the new start--lies not in the enumeration of the already familiar principles expounded in the election campaign--the reduction of taxes, raising of the level of production and attainment of a high rate of economic growth. It is far from clear by what means these aims will be achieved at the same time, and through what sacrifices. In addition, how can they be combined with any significant increase in military expenditure? All this remains a great mystery, the New York TIMES writes.

[Kosovan] Excuse me, Oleg Nikolayevich, I think we should also say a few words about the future foreign policy line of the new administration. One of our listeners from Moscow, Ivanova, writes that she was alarmed at a recent statement by Haig, who holds office as secretary of state. Speaking in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he pushed for a strengthening of the U.S. strategic position and for a buildup of military preparations. Thus, in our listener's opinion, he presented himself as a supporter of a hard line. Soviet people, however, Comrade Ivanova stresses, do not want the 1980's to be turned into a decade of crisis.

U.S. Foreign Policy Directions

Oleg Nikolayevich, what were the directions in foreign policy that were outlined in the actual speech by President Reagan?

[Anichkin] They were outlined only in general, on a purely philosophical plane, so to speak, in the style of American traditions. In particular, the President said: As we go through the process of our own renewal, we will produce the impression of great power in the eyes of the whole world. Further, he stressed that the United States would work to secure peace--and here I quote--by increasing its military might.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, what if we turn our attention to the statements by the secretary of state that we just mentioned, and by the secretary of defense on the foreign policy of the new administration?

[Anichkin] Yes, of course, these permit us to make some sort of assessment. It can be said that in the Persian Gulf area, despite the solution of the problem of the U.S. hostages, the United States will not end its permanent presence. It is not ruled out that its presence will even be increased, under the same pretext of protecting its vital interests; in other words it will try to ensure that its supplies of Arab oil are free of interruption. We have already said that the Republican administration will make no changes to the course of implementing the Camp David deal in the Near East.

Particular attention will apparently be paid to Latin America, and first and foremost to Central America. It appears that measures will be taken to suppress all conflagrations of the revolutionary liberation struggle, as is now happening, for example, in El Salvador.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, what can be said about Soviet-U.S. relations?

[Anichkin] These will undoubtedly occupy a chief place in the foreign policy of the new U.S. Government. At the center of the Soviet-U.S. relations is the problem of strategic arms limitations. Representatives of the Republican administration assert that the SALT II treaty is disadvantageous to the United States. Judging by the speeches of Haig, the secretary of state, and Weinberger, the secretary of defense, the United States would like to hold talks from a position of having the greater strength, to use their expression. In other words, their desire is to achieve superiority. Naturally, the Soviet Union cannot permit the basic principles of the strategic arms limitation talks--equality and identical security--to be broken. It would be completely wrong to think that the Soviet Union will accept agreements that are disadvantageous to it and which give the advantage to the other side.

[Kosovan] All in all, the state of Soviet-U.S. relations is of exceptional importance for improving the climate of international relations.

[Anichkin] There can be no doubt of that. As far as our state is concerned, the message from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev to the new U.S. President noted the following: It is our conviction, the message reads, that in the present conditions there is an urgent need for active efforts on the part of all states to improve the international situation and strengthen peace. I am sure that the positive development of relations between the USSR and the United States and a constructive interaction between them in solving topical international problems--which we, for our part, are in favor of--would do much to promote the achievement of those aims.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Oleg Nikolayevich. A few years ago, Mexico rose to one of the first places in the world for the size of its oil reserves. Since then, there has been an unusual increase in the attention paid by the United States to Mexico. Even now, the United States is receiving about two-thirds of all the oil produced by Mexico, but wants still more, to save its own reserves. Therefore, recently, by diplomatic and other means, Washington has been trying to force Mexico greatly to increase both extraction and delivery of liquid fuel. Agencies reported that this subject was discussed during the meeting between the presidents of the two countries. In principle, the Mexicans intend to develop their oil industry, but on the basis of their own interests, and it is not only a matter of conserving natural resources. The practice of many oil-producing countries has shown that dollars received in payment for fuel must come in in a strictly controlled way; otherwise, they cause a jump in inflation and have a generally negative effect on the economy. This, in a nutshell, is the history of relations between the two countries in one comparatively narrow field.

But there are disagreements on other economic matters too, for example fisheries, and on matters of foreign policy. In this, the United States holds an anti-Cuban position, whereas Mexico maintains friendly relations with Cuba. The United States nourishes and arms repressive regimes in Central America and is preparing to intervene in the affairs of the Latin American countries, whereas Mexico condemns the repression of democratic forces and defends the right of the peoples to decide their own fate.

Terrorism in Italy

We have received quite a number of letters containing questions about the so-called d'Urso case in Italy. Some of our listeners, in particular Comrades Nikiforov of Taganrog, Yevseyev of Moscow, and Tatoyev of Nalchik ask us to tell in more detail of this highly placed legal official. The letters from Mikhail Sergeyevich Moskov of Sumskaya Oblast and Telegin of Leningrad include the question of the reasons for the widespread activities of terrorist organizations in Italy. I have passed all these letters to Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, TASS political observer.

Anatoliy Andreyevich, you have read these letters, and I shall add a few questions, too. First, who is this d'Urso? Why did the terrorists of the so-called Red Brigades suddenly need to kidnap him, and why, on this occasion, did they change their usual practice and allow the kidnap victim to escape from the affair with his life?

[Krasikov] Valeriy Ivanovich, it might be worth dividing your question into several parts. First, about Giovanni d'Urso. As you have already said, he is a highly placed legal official. Together with 29 other such officials, he worked in the department of the Italian Ministry of Justice which deals with prisons and corrective labor camps. Before the kidnapping, d'Urso held the post of head of the third section there. He was directly responsible for transferring convicted terrorists from one place of imprisonment to another. Well, what else can one say about this man? He is 49 years old. He is from Catania, in Sicily, where, as we know, the underground bandit organization known as the Mafia has established itself and has been operating now for a century or more.

[Kosovan] Perhaps it was this factor which helped Judge d'Urso to come out of the affair unscathed. I mean, Anatoliy Andreyevich, maybe the Mafia and the notorious Red Brigades, clashed with each other over this case.

[Krasikov] We have no proof of d'Urso being connected with the Mafia, though he is a Sicilian. After all, not all the inhabitants of Sicily are mafiosi, that is Mafia bandits. However, your question is nevertheless very interesting. I can list a large number of curious facts which throw some light on this case. Whether there is any connection between them is another matter. I personally have no proof that there is, but nor is there any proof that there is not; no one has yet proved that these are isolated facts having absolutely no relation to each other.

To what do I refer? First, the Mafia in Sicily maintains constant contacts with the Mafia operating in the United States. This is a fact. Second, the Red Brigades, if the Italian press is to be believed, also are not without influential friends across the ocean. Third, according to many observers in Italy, the Red Brigades had, and maybe still have, an agent of their own in the Justice Ministry, where d'Urso worked, and not only in the Justice Ministry by the way but in other of the country's state institutions too. This man of theirs, in particular, helped the terrorists, again according to the Italian press, to conduct the operation of the abduction and assassination of Aldo Moro, the leader of the Christian Democratic Party of Italy, in 1978. I do not want to say that this was d'Urso himself, I just don't know who it was, but here is another fact: d'Urso was abducted when he was on his way to work at an unusual time and, furthermore, this particular time he was not using his official car, specially fitted against the possibility of a terrorist attack, but his own private car. Why did he do this? And who could have warned the Red Brigades of all this in advance? Are there not too many coincidences in the case of one man?

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, it seems to me that you are hinting to us that d'Urso was kidnapped--how shall I put it?--not without knowing about it beforehand himself.

[Krasikov] Note that I am only setting out facts which have appeared throughout the Italian press. The Red Brigade terrorists, like those of other similar organizations, are operating in cooperation with--together with--some representatives of the state apparatus. By the way, some of their accomplices have been exposed and others so far remain in the shadows, but they do exist. They are not ghosts, they are living people.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, maybe you could dwell in a little more detail on the activities of the Red Brigades.

[Krasikov] The organization with this imposing name arose a little over 10 years ago in 1970. Its founder is considered to be a certain Renato Curcio, a sociologist by profession. This sociologist is serving a prison sentence at Palma in Calabria. Renato Curcio calls himself an enemy of capitalism and a revolutionary, but representatives of the leftwing parties who have kept track of his writings, not to mention his deeds, say that this is a man with obvious fascist tendencies.

Up to 1972, the Red Brigades perpetrated terrorist acts without killing anyone, limiting themselves to causing material damage: bomb explosions, setting fire to cars and other such actions. Then they began shooting people in the legs. The next stage in the so-called struggle of the Red Brigades was the abduction of people. The most notorious of these cases was the abduction of Aldo Moro, to which I have already referred. During this abduction, by the way, five members of Moro's personal guard were killed. Since then, the wave of terror in Italy has not ceased to grow. Suffice it to say that last year, 1980, over 1,000 major terrorist acts were committed in the country, in the course of which 115 people were killed and 253 wounded.

[Kosovan] How can one explain such large-scale political terror in Italy? If I am not mistaken, this figure must break all records for such things? Or has it always been so?

[Krasikov] Well, how shall I put it? I worked in Italy myself for several years as a TASS correspondent, and I remember well that for all the difficulties of a socioeconomic nature, nothing of this sort took place on Italian soil, nothing like that which we have been observing in the past few years. We journalists could safely walk the streets in town or village, at any time of the day or night, and never feared any kind of attack. And this did not only apply to us. I remember that we used to meet freely with politicians, with leaders of parties and trade unions, ministers, interviewing them, and this frequently took place not in offices or buildings but in the open air, during meetings or other mass occasions, at cafe tables or simply in the street. There was never any question of cars with armor-plated doors. All people lived a normal human way of life. And suddenly this savage outbreak of violence occurs. I have not been to Italy for some years, but some Italian acquaintances of mine who have come here to Moscow have told me that now not only well-known figures, but ordinary citizens too, others without imposing names or titles, as one might say, often refrain from going out into the street in the evening. Danger awaits on at practically every step, in the form of both criminal bandits and political assassins, and there are coming to be more and more of them.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, how can this rise in crime be explained?

[Krasikov] Quite a lot has been written in the press about political terrorism. Who needs it? Who is behind the murderers? For 35 years now, Italy has been ruled, in alliance with other bourgeois parties, and sometimes independently, by one major political entity, the Christian Democratic Party. The Christian Democrat governments defend as best they can the interests of big capital, the interests of the Italian industrialists and financiers. As for the working people, the industrial workers, the peasants, the intelligentsia, the so-called middle classes, they have to meet the bill for this policy.

It might be expected that in such conditions, the influence and significance of the Christian Democrats would in time fall, and the popularity of the Communist Party, expressing the interests of the working masses, would grow, and this has indeed happened. This is shown quite convincingly by the results of the elections which have taken place in recent years. As a result, the question of the participation of the communists in deciding the country's fate become an ever more urgent one on the agenda, that is their participation in managing state affairs. Up to autumn last year, the Communist Party expressed willingness to enter a coalition with the Christian Democratic Party, which still remains, so far, the first party in the country. But on 27 September, the communists put forward a new slogan. They proposed the creation of a new alternative majority, as they call it in Italy, in which the Communist Party would be not simply an ally of the other parties but would be the main, decisive, leading force.

There can be no doubt that sooner or later, such a majority will be created; this is the way things are moving. So Italian big capital is trying to prevent such a development of events. And it is interesting that this is no less, perhaps even more, feared across the ocean, where they have become used to considering Italy virtually as a colony of the United States. So maneuvers are being undertaken which are intended, on the one hand, to intimidate the Italians with the notorious Red danger, and on the other hand, to eliminate those politicians in the bourgeois camp who show readiness, in some degree or other, to cooperate with the communists.

Let it be remembered that Aldo Moro was a supporter of including the Communist Party in a ruling coalition. And as is now known from the materials of the investigation into the case of his assassination, during a trip by Moro across the ocean, while he was still at the summit of Italian politics, a certain highly placed American official warned him of possible vengeance. Moro was advised by this official to give up his political activities or to change his line. As we know, Moro did not follow this advice from the American, and paid for this with his life. Moro's fate was shared by certain other politicians.

It is hard to say to what extent precisely, in any particular case, the U.S. special services were involved. But the Italian press has written about this, and we know of the existence of the ominous plans under the numbers 10G and 100-1. Also known is an interview given to the Italian Journal (EROTEO) by William Colby, a former leader of the CIA. By his admission, the United States, I quote, had never skimped on cash bribes to terrorist organizations with the aim of stepping up anticommunist activities in Italy.

[Kosovan] These are external factors, as one might say.

[Krasikov] Yes, but internal ones exist too, of course. Terrorism undoubtedly has some sort of base in the country itself, and not a small one at that it would seem. The mass of the discontented is exceptionally great, and not all of them by any means can distinguish where the truth lies, and where the falsehood lies. According to published data, one Italian in seven is now living at poverty level. There is a huge army of unemployed in the country. There are over 1 million of them just among school graduates and those finishing higher education, living in misery, without work, without bread. Not for nothing did the paper GIORNALE call the country's schools factories of the unemployed. And these young people, without yet any firmly held beliefs or convictions, but experiencing, knowing well in practice, what starvation and poverty are, often fall for the bait of all sorts of provocateurs and adventurers, and fill the ranks of the criminals as such, and the political criminals as well--not by any means all of them of course, but some take this road.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, do you see any light at the end of the tunnel?

[Krasikov] Unfortunately, in the foreseeable future, I personally see no such light. The struggle for democracy and social justice in Italy is far from finished. It will continued.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Anatoliy Andreyevich.

PRAVDA REVIEWS LEGACY, REAGAN SPEECH, HOSTAGES IRAN

LD261441 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jan 81 p 4

[Boris Orekhov, "International Review"]

[Text] There is less than a month to be before the 26th CPSU Congress--a major event in our people's life, in the life of the world as a whole. Among other important decisions the congress will determine the basic guidelines and tasks of the foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet state for the immediate future. Their practical implementation will have undiminishing significance for the destiny of the world.

At the current party report and election conferences and union republic Communist Party congresses Soviet communists are talking with satisfaction about our country's successes in fulfilling the 25th party congress decisions and saying that the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy fully reflects the Soviet people's vital interests and meets with their unanimous approval.

The world press continues its broad discussion of and comment on the CPSU Central Committee draft for the CPSU congress "The Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-85 and for the Period through 1990." Again and again attention is drawn to the fact that they confirm the content of the draft and that all the thoughts and plans of Soviet people and the soviet land lie in the sphere of peaceful creative labor.

Changes in Washington

Fate has willed that the junction of the seventies and eighties be also the time for a change of leadership in the capitalist world's biggest country.

Looking back to the end of the seventies, people can clearly see how much damage was done by the now-departed J. Carter administration and what a short-sighted person he turned out to be, as well as being an unreliable partner in international relations. He is coming in for some strong words primarily from the bourgeois commentators who 4 years ago were extolling the virtues of the Democratic president.

"A dismal legacy." The only words venerable commentator Joseph Kraft could find to describe what J. Carter has left behind after 4 years in the White House. This legacy, he grieves, "is a dismal collection of shattered illusions, sacrificed ideals, half-measures and unresolved dilemmas."

In fact, it is hard to find a clearer illustration of Thomas Jefferson's words that in America "no man leaves the presidency with the reputation he had when he took office."

We know what dimensions anti-Soviet war hysteria assumed in the United States in the last months and weeks of the Democratic administration's incumbency. And in fueling it J. Carter and his entourage displayed an enviable consistency which they so often lacked when pursuing the country's foreign policy course; even the final days of his incumbency were used to stoke the fire and raise the temperature of the militarist campaign.

Harold Brown tried to shine at the last. On surrendering his post the Pentagon chief sent to Congress his annual report assessing the U.S. and Soviet positions in the military sphere and making recommendations to the new administration in terms of future U.S. military expenditure. Unable to deny what is generally acknowledged, Brown admitted in his report that "the United States and the Soviet Union are keeping their overall strategic balance approximately equal." But then there was a blatant attempt to cloud the issue and "figures" were concocted whereby the USSR "spends 80 percent more on defense than the United States."

One wonders why he had to resort to this "big lie" at this time. One would think "lame ducks" would have no need for it: In fact, Brown and his Pentagon colleagues heard the final bell back in November. The answer is simple. It was a calculated attempt to put Brown's successor--new Defense Secretary C. Weinberger--in a difficult position. The latter admitted that unfortunately he is a newcomer to defense matters and therefore is scarcely able to dispute the "factology" cited by Brown.

Commentators pinned great hopes on Ronald Reagan's speech, which the 40th U.S. president was to make at the inauguration on 20 January. Now that the new U.S. administration head has made his first official speech commentators note that it made a mixed impression on the audience.

On the one hand, the speech contained a fair assessment of the state of the U.S. economy. "The United States is currently faced with serious economic adversity," the President said. The country is suffering, he continued, "the longest and one of the worst periods of inflation in its national history"--inflation which "distorts our economic decisions, penalizes thrift and crushes the struggling young and the fixed-income elderly."

As for the formulas proposed to cure the sick economy, as yet they appear too vague. Listing the President's promises of a "reduction in taxes," an "increase in production levels," and the "attainment of high economic growth rates," the New York TIMES observes that "it is far from clear how these aims will be achieved simultaneously, and by means of what 'sacrifices.'" Even more important is the question of "how they can be combined with any significant increase in military spending." This refers to repeated earlier statements by the new President and his ministers on their intention to build up U.S. military might in every way, that is, to implement a policy which is inevitably associated with a further increase in the military budget.

Attention is also drawn to the cautious formulas used when the speech sets out the new President's promises to his country's citizens. Thus, having promised the Americans progress in the socioeconomic sphere, R. Reagan hastily stipulates that "this will be slow and will be measured in inches and feet, not miles." The country's most sensitive barometer, the New York Stock Exchange, showed no optimism with respect to the country's rapid economic recovery, and on the day when R. Reagan took office activity on the stock exchange was low.

Commenting on the Republican candidate's arrival in the White House, most foreign mass information organs predict that it will be hard to fulfill his election promises. "Reagan is inheriting a U.S. domestic and international situation the like of which America has not known, even in its gloomiest periods," France's Le QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS notes. "Reagan's task," the newspaper believes, "will be every difficult, since in order to change things it is not enough to say that everything will soon change."

Nor did the foreign policy section of the inaugural speech arouse optimism among listeners and commentators. The four paragraphs devoted to explaining U.S. foreign policy goals say that "peace is the focal point of the American people's most profound aspirations." R. Reagan promised: "We will hold talks for the sake of peace and make sacrifices for it, but we will not capitulate for its sake--now or ever." But this postulate is closely followed by another, equally eloquent and equally contradictory: "We will maintain sufficient might to take the upper hand if need be."

In his first speech R. Reagan did not talk about how the new administration intends to build its relations with the Soviet Union. As for our country, in its foreign policy it proceeds on the basis of the urgent need for active efforts by all states with a view to improving the international situation and strengthening peace, and on the basis of the obvious fact that the attainment of these goals would be promoted by the positive development of relations between the USSR and the United States and by their constructive collaboration in resolving topical international problems.

It would seem that an awareness of this indisputable truth on the part of the new people who have taken on their shoulders the difficult burden of managing the foreign policy of the world's biggest capitalist country would guarantee them against the unenviable lot which their White House predecessors brought on themselves.

On 20 January the Italian weekly IL SETTIMANALE published an interview with the new U.S. President. Asked how he now sees the United States, R. Reagan said: 'I can describe the picture which is right before my eyes. America is on horseback."

It only remains to be seen what kind of horse he has in mind.

Why the Aircraft Carriers Remain

It so happened that the first day of the new Republican incumbents' residence in the White House was the last day of the 14-month epic of the 32 American Embassy employees detained in Tehran on a charge of espionage activity.

As is now becoming increasingly clear, the "hostages drama" was in essence the work of the former U.S. president. Instead of resolving the conflict through diplomatic channels from the first, the White House resorted to artificially whipping up tension over it. The problem, France's L'HUMANITE comments, could have been resolved long ago if the "U.S. leaders had not refused to take into account the Iranian people's legitimate aspirations to sovereignty and national independence."

However, the U.S. leaders needed something different. They needed a pretext for sending their aircraft carriers to the Persian Gulf region--ships which have now replaced, in imperialism's diplomatic arsenal, the notorious gunboats of former times. The point is that, as is now clear, the United States planned to extend its military presence in the Persian Gulf region long before the American Embassy employees were seized in Tehran.

Out of the simplicity of their soul some people believed that, as "the need has passed" now that those people have left Tehran, the American warships would also return from the Persian Gulf region to the ports from which they came. Nothing of the kind. The resolution of the "American hostage crisis," as America and other foreign news agencies report, citing U.S. Defense Department sources, will in no way affect the Pentagon's plans for the further buildup of a military presence in the Persian Gulf region. Here, for example, is what (J. Uigkhart) writes in the New York DAILY NEWS: "The agreement on the release of the American hostages in Iran unties Ronald Reagan's hands and allows him to undertake the vitally important task of strengthening U.S. defense in the Persian Gulf against the threat of Soviet expansionism." Such a "statement of the question" so resembles delirium that it is somehow uncomfortable even to enter into polemics.

But delirium aside, at this moment, according to a report from the American UPI agency, two American carrier-borne attack groups are stationed in the northern part of the Arabian Sea near the Iranian coast. One of them is headed by the Ranger and the other by the Independence. These aircraft carriers are at the head of a powerful U.S. naval strike force consisting of 33 ships, including 3 landing ships with 1,800 marines on board.

Britain's REUTER Agency, citing information received at the Pentagon, in turn transmits the following report: "Although the hostages have been released and have left Iranian territory, the United States will never return to the situation whereby the American Near East fleet in the Persian Gulf region consisted of four or five frigates and destroyers." The U.S. military presence in this oil-rich region, the agency points out, will not be cut back, particularly now that the new Republican administration, which advocates building up American military strength everywhere, has taken office in Washington.

A number of facts of this sort could be cited. BBC TV, for example, reports U.S. plans to enlarge and modernize the naval base at Berbera (Somalia). The New York TIMES writes that the Carter administration cleared the way for the new U.S. President to make military deliveries to Somalia worth $40 million. The U.S. Defense Department informs the Congress of its intention to sell Saudi Arabia military equipment and spares for the weapons supplied earlier by Washington to that country.

It is not hard to be convinced that the previous Washington administration endeavored to do everything to ensure that the United States would continue to follow the path of exacerbating the already dangerously explosive situation in the Persian Gulf region. "Reagan will now (after the release of the Americans held in Iran--editor) be able," the aforementioned (Uigkhart) enthuses, "to concentrate all attention on implementing Carter's plan to secure rights to bases for the American Navy and Air Force in this region, as well as in Somalia, Kenya and Oman."

An anti-Iranian campaign has been growing in the United States over the last few days. Its tone is being set by none other than former President Carter. Doubt is being cast on the necessity of fulfilling the agreement concluded with Iran, under which the Americans held in Iran were freed. The thesis of U.S. nonacceptance of the Iranian revolution remains the campaign's leitmotiv.

Of course, the new U.S. administration is in no way obliged to follow the path mapped out for it by its predecessors or to heed the "advice" of (Uigkhart) and his ilk. But there is no doubt that it is being pushed energetically onto that path.

Moreover, American aircraft carriers are really remaining for the time being in the immediate vicinity of Iran's shores, and there is no information attesting to any intention of recalling them. There is, though, a real alternative to the dangerous development of events. It is contained in the extensive and concrete program proposed by the Soviet Union for the neutralization and demilitarization of the Persian Gulf region. Many states have recognized that its implementation would accord with the interests of ensuring security and tranquillity in this dangerously explosive region of our world.

SECOND MADRID CSCE SESSION RESUMES 27 JANUARY

Soviet-French Consultations

LD231852 Moscow TASS in English 1737 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jan, TASS--Soviet-French consultations on matters connected with the Madrid meeting of representatives of states--participants in the European conference, and on some other topical international problems of mutual interest were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on January 22-23. Taking part in the consultations from the Soviet side was USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilichev. Taking part in the consultations from the French side were director of the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry of France Gabriel Robin and French Ambassador in the USSR Henry Froment-Meurice.

Gabriel Robin was received by USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko.

Soviet Delegation Arrives

LD261408 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Madrid, 26 Jan, TASS--The Soviet delegation arrived in Madrid today to take part in the second meeting of the European security and cooperation follow-up conference. The head of the delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Leonid Ilichev, told a group of journalists on arrival:

"The Madrid meeting will be resumed on January 27. Its place in history will depend on its results. We want the name of the Spanish capital to become a good symbol of peace and security of peoples.

"The Soviet delegation is prepared to do everything possible to attain these noble objectives. Our stand is open, clear and honest, just as our policy.

"As Leonid Brezhnev said, 'ascribing to the Soviet Union some perfidious designs in Europe, Africa, in the Middle East or vis-a-vis the United States is nothing but an unseemly trick of political struggle. This has nothing in common with facts'.

"The facts are that our country consistently comes out in favour of peace and security on earth today, just as yesterday.

"I want to give you a good peace of advice: The great American writer Mark Twain said that truth is our most precious property. Let us handle it with care. "Write truth about the Madrid meeting".

'Particularly Important'

LD261658 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan, TASS--TASS political commentator Vladimir Goncharov writes: The meeting of representatives of states participants in the European Conference on Security and Cooperation resumes tomorrow in Madrid's Palace of Congresses. This second stage of the meeting will be a particularly important one.

At the first stage of the meeting in the Spanish capital, after the exchange of views on the fulfillment of the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki conference and the tasks set by that conference, proposals were set forth concerning various aspects of that document. A total of about a hundred such proposals were made during the concluding two weeks of work of the first stage. And it is the task of the second stage to discuss all these proposals. A number of them are connected with the central problem on which the cause of strengthening peace in Europe depends--the problem of military detente and disarament in the continent, of lessening military confrontation. In this connection the attention of the participants in the meeting was attracted by the proposal of the Polish People's Republic to convene in October 1981 in Warsaw a conference on military detente in Europe. Proposals on military detente made by delegations of France, Yugoslavia, Sweden, Finland and Romania are to be studied in Madrid.

Attention is also attracted by proposals on confidence building measures formulated by delegations of eight neutral and non-aligned states.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries want the Madrid meeting to adopt effective measures to intensify cooperation in the sphere of economy, science, technology, the natural environment and the humanities.

It should be noted however that set forth for discussion at the second stage of the Madrid meeting were also such proposals that were by no means motivated by concern for the realization of the Helsinki Final Act. They are directed rather at a revision of the Helsinki accords, at obviously upsetting the very thoroughly weighed balance which is reflected in that historic act. Such proposals can only lead the all-European process into the impasse of "cold war".

A positive outcome of the Madrid meeting will require the good will and efforts of all participants in this forum, their readiness to search for and find ways of agreed-upon constructive steps dealing with every section of the Final Act. The Soviet delegation and the delegations of other socialist states intend to do everything within their power to press for the attainment of these lofty aims.

They also want the second stage of the Madrid meeting to pass in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and for this meeting as such to end in the attainment of practical accords on all sections of the Helsinki Final Act which would find their reflection in the concluding document.

The question of a businesslike and constructive atmosphere at the meeting in Madrid is of exceptional importance. For it is a fact that at the first stage the representatives of the United States and their closest NATO allies tried to impart to it an absolutely different tone, to lead the meeting away from the discussion of the most pressing problems of modern Europe, tried to aggravate the already complex situation in the continent, to arrange a sort of propaganda spectacle instead of undertaking a serious discussion of the important problems for the sake of which the representatives of 35 states have assembled in Madrid.

The initiators of such propaganda spectacles were representatives of the Carter administration and this destructive stand taken by Washington's envoys had seriously obstructed the meeting's work.

In this connection one can express hope today that the American delegation, which will proceed from instructions given by the new U.S. administration, will display a more realistic and constructive approach to the problems that will be studied at the second stage of the Madrid meeting. In the Soviet Union's opinion in the present conditions it is pressingly needed for all states to work actively for the improvement of the international situation and the strengthening of peace.

'New Impetus'

LD/62146 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] The meeting of representatives of the member-states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe resumes in Madrid tomorrow. Here is a news commentary with Viktor Levin at the microphone:

Whenever one starts to speak about the relaxation of international tension, invariably one recalls the Finnish capital Helsinki which is associated with one of the most outstanding achievements in the cause of creating foundations for security and cooperation in Europe--the all-European conference.

The Madrid meeting is called upon to provide a new impetus to the process begun in Helsinki, and that is why people of good will are attaching great hopes to it, the more so since now, in conditions of an exacerbation in international relations--and there is no getting away from this fact--the success of the Madrid meeting acquires particular importance.

About 90 proposals have now been submitted for its agenda. They concern various issues, but there is no doubt that the main one is the proposal to convene a conference on military detente and disarmament. There are a number of ideas on this score. The opinion of the states of the socialist community is expressed in the Polish proposal. It is typified by what is called the spirit of Helsinki--that is, a desire to see that no state should suffer and that all should benefit. One may say with every justification that the Polish proposal evolves from the principled nature of the points of the Final Act which are clearly written into this historic document and which are called upon to serve as a guiding star for the process of European detente.

Certain other states have also introduced proposals for a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe. The basis for discussion is broad enough and it is to be hoped that the Madrid meeting will quickly come around to a businesslike discussion of all these proposals.

It would seem that this should go without saying, but the first stage of the Madrid meeting showed that the U.S. delegation is in no way inclined to a businesslike discussion of urgent problems. The near future will show whether there will be a shift in its position. It is possible to hope for this since the delegation at the first stage represented an administration which was looking not forward but back, as its days were already numbered. But now the delegation will be comprised of emissaries of President Reagan. In fact, it is in the Spanish capital that the new administration will be making its debut in the international arena, and the people will be able to judge from this debut what the general direction of Washington's foreign policy will be.

The Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist states believe it is utterly practical to adopt a decision in Madrid on convening a conference on military detente and disarmament. They are fully determined to make every effort to act in the immutable spirit of the peace-loving Leninist foreign policy.

WORLDWIDE WELCOME FOR PERSIAN GULF PROPOSAL NOTED

LD231435 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 81 p 5

[I. Schedrov article: "A Real Alternative"]

[Text] The proposals on ways to ensure peace and security in the Persian Gulf region put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his address to the Indian Parliament is still being widely discussed by the foreign press and public. This is understandable, since we are dealing with a region which is increasingly becoming a dangerous hotbed of international tension and with realistic ways of normalizing the situation there.

Thus the bourgeois British newspaper THE OBSERVER numbered the Soviet peace plan for this part of the world among the most important political events of 1980. "Mr Brezhnev's proposals on the neutralization of the Persian Gulf and guaranteed access to its oil," the newspaper writes, "are a step in the right direction."

There is nothing surprising in the fact that the Soviet peace initiative prompted mixed responses abroad--approval from those political forces which favor international detente and cooperation, and irritation and opposition from aggressive imperialist circles which are trying to return the world to the cold war era.

The Soviet proposals had a great impact in countries located in the vicinity of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, since they accord with the vital interests of the peoples of a vast area in which one-third of humanity lives.

Addressing Parliament, Indira Gandhi, prime minister of the world's and the region's largest developing state, said that "the proposals which President Brezhnev set out in his address to the members of Parliament appear constructive and worth studying closely." At the same time she condemned the policy of building up a military presence in the region being pursued by imperialist forces.

The Jordanian newspaper AL DUSTUR also described the Soviet peace initiative as worth studying closely. L.I. Brezhnev, it points out, is the first leader of a great power to recognize the importance of neutralizing the Persian Gulf region and to submit well-argued proposals aimed at achieving that purpose. The newspaper DAILY NEWS published in Tanzania--one of Africa's largest Indian Ocean states--writes: In Delhi the Soviet leader made an important proposal to conclude a treaty banning the siting of foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf region and the deployment of nuclear weapons there.

Judging from press responses and statements by prominent figures, the Soviet peace initiative also aroused great interest in Japan, France and other West European countries and in the United States. Broad sections of these states' populations have an interest in the normalization of the situation in the Persian Gulf region, since this would have a direct beneficial effect on their economic positions, which have sharply deteriorated recently. After all, imports from this region account for two-thirds of West Europe's oil requirements. Oil supplies from the Persian Gulf region play an even bigger role for such countries as Japan and India. At the same time some 16 percent of total U.S. imports of "black gold" come from this region. It is natural that all these countries are concerned to prevent the energy problem from being exacerbated as a result of a break in the lines of communication from the Persian Gulf zone. The Soviet initiative, addressed both to the states in the region itself and to the United States, the countries of West Europe, China, Japan and other interested parties, takes particular note of this point and proposes reaching an accord on not creating any obstacles or threats to normal commercial exchange and the use of the sealanes connecting the Persian Gulf with other parts of the world.

In their commentaries many newspapers stress that the proposals submitted by L.I. Brezhnev are a positive new step in developing the policy of peace and security consistently pursued by the USSR. The Soviet Union has reaffirmed that it is a staunch supporter of the idea of turning the Indian Ocean, of which the Persian Gulf region is a part, into a peace zone.

The following fact exemplifies a desire for cooperation and the strengthening of peace. The Soviet Union has said that it will welcome any initiatives which will lead to a relaxation of tension and are prompted by a concern to strengthen peace in Asia and on every continent.

At a recent session in Helsinki the WPC leadership discussed international issues, including the peace movement's tasks. "We are concerned at the deterioration in the international situation," WPC President Romesh Chandra said. "Consequently the struggle for peace and security and for a halt to the arms race becomes more and more urgent with each passing day." The WPC supports proposals aimed at safeguarding peace in various parts of the world, particularly the Soviet Union's recent initiatives, whose implementation would enable the Indian Ocean region to be turned into a peace zone."

At the same time the Soviet peace initiative was given a hostile reception by the mouthpieces of militant U.S. imperialism and Chinese expansionism, once again acting as a united front, and at NATO headquarters. Attempts are being made not only to ignore but also to disparage and misrepresent the Soviet peace proposals.

There is nothing new or unexpected in this. Under the farfetched pretext of defending "its vital interests" and ignoring the well-known UN General Assembly resolution on turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone and the just aspirations of the region's peoples, the United States, which is many thousands of kilometers away from the region, has concentrated a naval armada in the Indian Ocean and is strenuously building up arms and pressuring and threatening small countries.

In recent weeks certain U.S. circles have made vigorous attempts to foist on a number of states in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean agreements and accords to allow U.S. military bases to be sited on their territory and, under the Pentagon's auspices, to knock together new military blocs in the region in collaboration with Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan and other countries. Beijing is acting not only as an assistant but as an active accomplice in the conspiracy against peace in the region. Military supplies are already being moved via the strategic Karakoram Highway, recently built across the Indian Ocean, and help is being given to Islamabad in modernizing and building military bases and carrying out subversive acts against neighboring countries.

The Soviet initiative on normalizing the situation in the Persian Gulf, which the progressive foreign press is rightly calling the doctrine of peace and security, is a real alternative to the imperialist course of aggression and diktat and of fanning tension in this explosive region.

REPORTS CONTINUE ON ARMS AID TO EL SALVADOR

Aid Increases Amid Protests

LD261416 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 26 Jan 81

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Aleksey Sokolov and Yevgeniy Osipovskiy]

[Excerpts] Mass air bombardments and the artillery shelling of areas controlled by the insurgents have begun in El Salvador on the orders of the pro-American junta.

Let me note that the ruling regime has stepped up its barbaric shelling of areas under the control of the insurgents after the sharp increase in military aid from the United States. Dozens of American transport planes carrying weapons and ammunition arrive daily in the capital's airport. Also arriving from the United States are so-called specialists for combating partisans. They direct the operations of the junta troops and take part in punitive operations.

It must be noted that in the United States itself the wave of indignation among the democratic public is increasing in connection with the fact that Washington is broadening its economic and military support for the El Salvador regime. Thus, the influential public organization, the Washington Center for Latin American Affairs, has sharply criticized this policy. A mass protest demonstration has been held in San Francisco. Dozens of speakers pointed in their speeches to the increasing repressions of the bloody regime in El Salvador against the civilian population and angrily condemned the United States for increasing supplies of weapons to the junta. In a statement of the committee circulated at the meeting it is stressed that the adventurist actions of the United States in El Salvador are reminiscent of the beginning of the dirty war of American imperialism against Vietnam.

'Threat to Peace'

LD262336 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Washington, 26 Jan, TASS--According to the Washington POST, six heavy American-made combat helicopters have already been moved to Ilopango airfield near San Salvador. The helicopters are being urgently re-equipped to wage punitive operations. The Salvadoran military also received big consignments of weapons, including M16 automatic rifles, machineguns, submachineguns, grenade launchers, armoured carriers, military trucks and other types of hardware, as well as ammunition. Tens of American military instructors teach the junta's soldiers how to use new weapons and wage "anti-guerrilla warfare."

Frantically arming the junta, Washington is seeking to prevent the collapse of the regime under the blows of the insurgent people.

Managua, 26 Jan, TASS--The command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front has published a communique noting the successful implementation by front units of the tasks of the first stage of the general revolutionary offensive launched on January 10. The front leadership urges front fighting men, members of people's self-defence units, working people, all honest servicemen to continue the struggle which must bring peace, justice, freedom and genuine independence to the country.

The communique condemns the sharp escalation of American arms deliveries to the junta and the increased number of American military "advisers" with a view to expanding repressions against the people. The document says that by its interventionist manoeuvres U.S. imperialism creates a serious threat to peace throughout Central America.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front has called on all peoples and peace-loving governments to step up solidarity with the struggling people of El Salvador and stop the escalation of U.S. interference in El Salvador's affairs.

WHITE HOUSE 'TRUE AUTHOR' OF HOSTAGE DRAMA

LD261455 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 81 p 5

[Correspondent A. Tolkunov article: "When the Denouement Began"]

[Text] New York, 21 January--During those very minutes when the new U.S. President R. Reagan was being sworn in on the Capitol steps, information agencies were reporting that the airplanes carrying the 52 U.S. hostages had left Tehran airport. During the night of 20-21 January they were taken to the U.S. Air Force base at Wiesbaden in the FRG.

In its last days in power, J. Carter's administration conducted intensive negotiations with the Iranian Government on the terms for the hostages' release. Algeria, where U.S. Deputy Secretary of State W. Christopher spent several days, acted as intermediary. On the last day of his presidency--19 January--at 0458, J. Carter addressed the nation on television.

"We," he announced, "have reached an agreement with Iran which will result in freedom for our hostages."

The Iranian side agreed to release the 52 Americans in exchange for a U.S. commitment to refrain from interference--direct or indirect, political or military--in Iran's internal affairs, to hand back part of the assets belonging to Iran's people which are frozen in U.S. banks while transferring the remainder to international arbitration to await its decision, and to lift the economic embargo.

Thus, 20 January was not only the day that the 40th U.S. President entered office but also the last day of the U.S. hostages' stay in Iran.

Speculating on "patriotic feelings" and on the sympathy for the diplomats subjected to protracted detention, bourgeois propaganda is now intensively creating around J. Carter and his entourage the halo of politicians who, in a crisis situation, displayed "steadfastness combined with patience and restraint." Meanwhile the unbridled anti-Iranian campaign is not abating.

However, leafing through the chronicle of the crisis, one can easily discover those who were to blame for it.

The fate of the people kept under guard far from home moved the Americans deeply. Pursuing its own selfish interests, the Carter administration played on this, too. The fact is, as the development of events showed, the hostage problem could have been settled long ago by peaceful means through diplomatic channels after satisfying the Iranian people's legitimate demands. Even the local press and many politicians were forced to admit that the White House was the true author of the hostage drama. "President Carter provoked the seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by allowing the shah to enter the United States and ignoring specific and repeated warnings that such a step could lead to the seizure of Americans as hostages," The Washington POST noted back in April last year, indicating that even then these people could have been freed by peaceful means "without in any way undermining U.S. positons." "Allowing the shah to enter the United States was a crafty act aimed at artificially aggravating U.S.-Iranian relations," Congressman G. Hansen concluded.

It is no secret that the very big Chase Manhattan Bank and also a number of corporations--above all, oil corporations--which had plundered the Iranian people for many years during the shah's regime, were behind the invitation made to the shah to come to the United States. It was indeed they that needed the crisis situation so as to compensate for lost profits by "freezing" the Iranian assets in the United States and seizing other people's wealth.

The smoldering fire of the crisis clearly suited the White House at a certain period. Not without reason did Senator E. Kennedy, one of the former contenders for the presidency, accuse J. Carter during the election campaign of using the situation for purely circumstantial electoral considerations by constantly keeping the whole nation spellbound and thereby diverting people's attention from the profound crisis phenomena in the United States itself--economic disorder, inflation and unemployment.

However, U.S. imperialism was purusing another long-term aim: Under the pretext of the events in Iran and Afghanistan, the White House declared the Persian Gulf region to be of "vital importance for U.S. interests." Hiding behind far-fetched concern for the security of oil deposits which are in no way U.S. property, the United States concentrated dozens of warships in that region and prepared for dispatch units of the Rapid Deployment Force."

The Pentagon's abortive hostage "rescue" adventure during the night of 24-25 April last year which caused the deaths of eight U.S. servicemen, produced reverberations round the world.

"The President's policy has meant that my son's fate hangs by a mere thread. The only thing which worries Carter now is the election struggle for the White House." This severe indictment was made at the time by S. Rosen, mother of one of the hostages, as she sobbed before the television cameras.

The political situation here is a complex thing. The approach of the presidential election prompted the Democratic administration to negotiate with the Iranian Government. "J. Carter is now trying to play his last trump card by 'freeing' the hostages before 4 November," NEWSDAY wrote sarcastically in this connection. As it later transpired, the administration, which had been a failure from every viewpoint, was engaged in the election campaign, not in the speediest settlement of this international conflict. And it was only in the "transitional period," when its fate was clear, that the administration found the time and the desire to complete the negotiations.

At the same time, in an attempt to divert American public attention from the true reasons for the crisis, the Democratic administration nonetheless managed in its last days in power to concoct yet anogher anti-Soviet falsehood by accusing the Soviet Union of virtually inflaming the conflict over the hostages. As they were hurriedly packing their bags people in the White House clearly "forgot" that right from the start the Soviet Union described the seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran as an act contravening international law.

Analyzing the essence of the American-Iranian crisis, the American communists' newspaper, THE DAILY WORLD, writes: "We are glad the hostages are returning home. However, we do not share the opinion of those politicians in Washington who are declaring that they were released thanks to 'serious pressure' and the 'threat of military intervention' by the new administration. President Carter also tried to intimidate the Iranian people with an economic boycott and a huge accumulation of armed forces in the Persian Gulf region. The so-called 'rescue mission' ended in ignominious failure and the death of eight Americans. Life proved that talks were the way to get the hostages back home."

Recalling that the White House's policy could have turned into a "second Vietnam" for the United States, the newspaper writes: "For more than 400 days we called for negotiations between the United States and Iran which would have led to the release of the hostages. And once again time has shown that we were right.

We now call on all supporters of peace, democracy and human rights to direct their efforts toward monitoring the U.S. promise not to interfere in Iran's affairs. Washington and the oil monopolies must recognize the irreversibility of the Iranian revolution."

So the hostage problem is solved. But, as realistically minded Americans realize, the same cannot be said for the American-Iranian crisis as a whole, its deep causes being rooted in the U.S. imperialist course.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS ON INAUGURATION, SENATE SESSION

LD261259 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 81 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent M. Sturua dispatch: "Ceremony at the Capitol"]

[Text] Washington--On Tuesday, 20 January, Ronald Wilson Reagan officially became the 40th President of the United States. This happened after the swearing-in ceremony which took place in front of the West Wing of the U.S. Congress building in Washington.

At exactly 1155, Chief Justice W. Burger asked Reagan the traditional question: "Governor, are you ready to take the constitutional oath?" Reagan replied: "I am ready." Then he placed his hand on the Bible and repeated after the chief justice the 35 words of the text of the oath.

In his traditional address delivered immediately after assuming office, R. Reagan avoided a detailed description of his administration's policy. However, he gave an extremely gloomy picture of the legacy passed on to him by the former administration. Reagan said that the country was suffering from the longest and one of the worst sustained inflations in U. S. history.

"This inflation," he said,"distorts our economic decisions, penalizes thrift and crushes the struggling young and the elderly alike. It threatens to shatter the lives of millions of people."

As a remedy for this grave affliction Reagan, as in his election speeches, again proposed a diffuse program revolving around encouragement for "free enterprise," balancing the budget, reduction of federal taxes with a view to stimulating business activity and so forth. He warned that "progress will be slow."

The first commentaries on R. Reagan's inaugural address attest that the public is skeptical, to say the least, about his formulas in the sphere of the economy. The press sees a certain measure of irony in the way in which Reagan, paraphrasing Churchill's well-known statement that he had not become prime minister to preside over the dissolution of the British Empire, said that he did not intend to preside over the dissolution of the U.S. economy. As is well known, Chruchill did not succeed in halting the collapse of the British Empire. And therefore the parallel drawn by Reagan instills no optimism. As one informed Wall Street man--Charles Johnson--stated, Reagan's address contained nothing "on which to hang your hat."

The foreign policy section of R. Reagan's inaugural address was very short and restrained. The President said that "peace is the highest aspiration of the American people," asserting that the best way of safeguarding peace is "to increase our might throughout the world."

An incident which occurred in the Senate on the first day of Reagan's presidency is highly indicative. The extreme rightwing Senators Helms and East ostentatiously voted against the confirmation of the new Defense Secretary C. Weinberger and his deputy, F. Carlucci, on the grounds that they had not made a full and complete break with the "past" which, according to Helms, had led to "our military and international decline." This first volley from the rightwingers is assessed here as an attempt by the reactionary forces to impose on the new administration from the very start an even more aggressive and militarist course than the one pursued by the Carter administration.

ECONOMIC 'CLOUDS' FACING NEW ADMINISTRATION NOTED

LD261135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 81 p 5

[PRAVDA correspondent and TASS report: "Washington: Change of Guard"]

[Excerpt] Washington, 20 Jan--Pondering the prospects of the Reagan Cabinet's policy, U.S. commentators choose, on the whole, to wait and see. But in one respect they are fairly unanimous and willing to make predictions: After the festive fireworks the new administration is in for gloomy economic weather of dense and forbidding clouds offering no solution to the problems of industrial stagnation, chronic unemployment running into the millions and raging inflation. Many Americans share the view of TIME magazine which noted the other day that "the repair of the country's economy will be the major test immediately facing R. Reagan's administration."

PRAVDA: GROMYKO CONGRATULATES HAIG ON APPOINTMENT

LD271015 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 81 p 4

[Text of Gromyko message to Alexander Haig]

[Text] To His Excellency Alexander M. Haig, U.S. secretary of state.

Esteemed Mr Haig,

Please accept my congratulations on your appointment as U.S. secretary of state.

I should like to express the hope that your activity in this responsible post will contribute to the development of relations between the USSR and the United States along a path in keeping with both countries' interests, the interests of strengthening peace.

[Signed] A. Gromyko

LENIENCY IN NEW YORK AEROFLOT RULING CRITICIZED

LD221740 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] In New York judgment has been passed in connection with the blatant act of sabotage at Kennedy Airport. As is known, on 18 January, 1980, through the fault of airport employees, there was almost a disaster with a Soviet IL-62 aircraft on a regular Aeroflot flight. Our correspondent Yevgeniy Petko reports from New York.

The authorities took over a year to punish those guilty, although it was clear straight away who was to blame, and what could have been the possible consequences for the passengers of the Soviet liner. Among others, the ambassador of the Soviet Union to the United States was also aboard the aircraft on that day.

And so, a year later, the Civil Aeronautics Board has at last passed a judgment: The culprit is to be suspended from his official duties for 60 days. As far as his partner is concerned, it was decided that he should merely be rebuked. The lawyers of those accused are quite satisfied with the administration's judgment. So those who are guilty will continue to do work which involves responsibility for the lives of thousands of air passengers.

And what is more, the surprisingly mild punishment creates a precedent for assessing similar actions in the future which are fraught with serious consequences.

POLOVCHAK FAMILY REMAIN 'VIRTUAL HOSTAGES' IN U.S.

'Fictitious Horrors'

LD261625 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] The Polovchak family continue to remain in the United States virtually as hostages. The U.S. authorities, violating all laws and elementary human rights, are attempting to take a child away from Soviet citizens. In the court hearings in Chicago the Polovchak case is being continually dragged out, which does not give them an opportunity to be united with their son and return home to the Soviet Union.

Contrary to commonsense and even U.S. laws, the decision on granting political asylum to 13-year-old Vladimir Polovchak, granted by Chicago immigration authorities with the support of the U.S. State Department, remains in force.

At the same time, the Polovchaks are being threatened and attempts are being made to frighten them by fictitious horrors which allegedly await them after their return to the USSR. The homeland has forgiven the Polovchaks for their mistake, which was committed under external influence. They have been permitted to return to the Soviet Union. However, this is being hindered by the arbitrariness of the U.S. authorities aimed at subverting the spirit of Helsinki and detente and at additionally complicating Soviet-U.S. relations.

Soviet Consul Comments

LD071044 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 7 Jan 81

["United States: Pressure on the Polovchak Family Continues"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Jan, TASS--The U.S. authorities continue keeping as hostage a thirteen-year-old son of Soviet citizen Mikhail Polovchak so as to compel the family not to return home.

Writing about this affair which lasts for almost six months now, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA today quotes the conversation with the Soviet consul in the United States Yevgeniy Antipov.

"I visited Chicago quite recently and met Mikhail Polovchak and his wife. A tense, intolerable atmosphere has been created around them," the consul said. "The judiciary bodies are dragging out in every way the hearing of their 'case': the meeting of the court of appeal was officially fixed for January 26 but, as lawyers believe, can be put off to a much later date."

"Mikhail Polovchak has long since been dismissed from work and the same threat now faces his wife," the Soviet consul said. "Instead of two meetings a week stipulated by the court, he is enabled to see his son Vladimir once or twice a month and he is always accompanied by guards, so that he has no opportunity to speak with his son in a quiet atmosphere."

Yevgeniy Antipov said that the local Ukrainian nationalistic circles "threaten to make short work of the parents and have of late been blackmailing them with threats to kidnap their younger, six-year-old son. Once they even made such an attempt." Despite the representation that was recently made by the Soviet Embassy, the local authorities do nothing to protect the Polovchak family against such threats.

"Besides, certain persons are trying to compel Polovchak not to return home, suggest that the fee for a book about his 'hardships in the Soviet Union' be shared with him and, in case he agrees to be a co-author, promise to buy him a house and get him a good job. But Mikhail Polovchak insists that he wishes to return home together with his children."

BEIJING COURT ANNOUNCES SENTENCES OF GANG OF FOUR

LD262326 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The sentence of the special court in the case of the so-called counter-revolutionary groups of Jiang Qing and Lin Biao has been announced in Beijing. Mao Zedong's widow, Jiang Qing, and Zhang Chunqiao, former member of the CCP Central Committee Politburo, have been sentenced to death, with the sentence being suspended for 2 years. In the course of the trial, material was made public which showed the true nature of the so-called Cultural Revolution, the instigator of which was, as is known, Mao Zedong. It caused irremediable harm to the economic and social development of China and brought about repression. In that period, as the Chinese press admits, about 100,000,000 people suffered. Speaking at the trial, Jiang Qing stated: All that I did, I did in accordance with the decision of the CCP Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao.

[Moscow TASS in English at 0807 GMT on 25 Jan carries a report on the sentencing which adds that Wang Hongwen has been sentenced to life imprisonment and that Yao Wenyuan was sentenced to 20 years in prison.]

CHINESE NUCLEAR AMBITIONS VIEWED AS WORLD DANGER

LD241802 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] During the recent visit of a delegation of the American Congress to China, the sides discussed, among other things, cooperation in the field of nuclear technology, our observer Boris Nikolayev has these details: The leader of the delegation Don Fuqua, who is also the chairman of the House Commission for Science and Technology, confirmed the fact that some 150 American nuclear physicists work presently in China and approximately the same number of Chinese scientists are doing research in the nuclear field in the United States. The American congressman disclosed that China spends about 40 percent of her budget on military needs, including the development of nuclear arms. He said at the same time that China's nuclear policy was not finally determined. This conclusion, as observers feel, is absolutely unfounded. According to the Indian newspaper NATIONAL HERALD, China became one of the most dangerous members of the nuclear club following her test of a long-range nuclear missile in the Pacific. The newspaper Sydney MORNING HERALD calls attention to the fact that China poses now a nuclear threat proliferating beyond the limits of neighboring India and Japan towards the western coast of America and any region of Australia or New Zealand.

China's nuclear ambitions go back to the fifties, when Mao was nurturing plans of a nuclear world war. The fact that half of mankind could die in such a war did not embarrass him. Mao's political successors keep toying with the idea of a new destructive war. The Chinese leaders declared on many occasions that a new world war is inevitable. As foreign military experts have estimated, in the last few years China has enlarged her nuclear warfare means three times. They now surpass 600 units, with a capacity from 200 kilotons to 4 megaton. China continues to develop her nuclear potential. The evidence of this is the holding of another, 25th, nuclear explosion in the atmosphere on the testing ground near Lake Kop Nor. Significantly, China opposes the nuclear nonproliferation threaty and gives practical help to Pakistan in the development of nuclear arms. She has also expressed her readiness to allow Pakistan the use of her testing grounds for testing the Pakistani nuclear bomb. Observers point out that the deployment of nuclear missiles by China in close proximity to the borders of neighboring countries cannot be qualified otherwise than an attempt at blackmail and pressure. After all, these are the countries that China lays her territorial claims to.

According to THE TIMES OF INDIA, China has deployed several hundred rockets furnished with both nuclear and conventional warheads capable of reaching targets at a distance of about 700 miles. Part of these rockets sited at the nuclear testing ground in Nagchu in Tibet have their guns trained at major cities and industrial installations of neighboring countries, including India. Everything shows that China is speeding-up her nuclear preparations. In combination with the expansionist plans, these preparations represent a constant threat to peaceful development of the Asian Continent.

IZVESTIYA HITS MOTIVES OF ZIAUL HAQ'S MIDEAST TOUR

LD261343 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 81 Morning Edition p 4

[Yu. Kovalenko article under the rubric "On the International Topics": "Creating a New Alliance..."]

[Text] Pakistani President Ziaul Haq has completed an 8-day tour of six Middle Eastern countries. He visited Kuwait, Turkey, Jordan, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

The trip by the head of the Pakistani military administration was undertaken not long before the third conference of Muslim countries' heads of state and government, which begins in Mecca on 25 January. Its opening is being preceded by complex activity behind the scenes. Reactionary circles in certain Islamic states would like to lead the conference away from discussing the most urgent questions of the international situation: the elimination of the consequences of Israeli aggression in the Near East, the buildup of American naval forces in the Persian Gulf zone and the elimination of U.S. bases in the Indian Ocean. Instead of this, under pressure from Washington and Beijing, they are trying to force the conference to examine the so-called "Afghan question" and to launch an anti-Afghan propaganda campaign at the conference.

Judging from press reports the Pakistani president's trip will hardly promote constructive work at the conference. Thus at a press conference in Kuwait Ziaul Haq came out against DRA participation in the Mecca conference, made a series of attacks on that country's legitimate government and declared "solidarity" with "Afghan rebels on Pakistan's territory."

The Pakistani president's present trip has another aspect of some importance. Washington strategists, who are nurturing plans for knocking together a new military alliance in southwest Asia, have entrusted Ziaul Haq with the task of pushing this idea. Questions of creating a military bloc with the participation of a number of pro-American Persian Gulf regimes, including Oman, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, have already been discussed in Islamabad during the talks between Saudi Crown Prince Fahd and the Pakistani president in December 1980. The same issues, according to Pakistani officials, were again examined during Ziaul Haq's talks with Turkish leaders.

According to Washington's design Pakistan is to take on gendarme functions in the new alliance, while Saudi Arabia and certain reactionary regimes in the Persian Gulf will become the bloc's "treasurers," paying off its militarist accounts. Islamabad has already established close military ties with Riyadh. Late in 1980 Pakistan, according to Britain's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, sent two military brigades into Saudi Arabia to join its armed forces. Another British newspaper, THE SUNDAY TIMES, reported the other day that Saudi Arabia has offered Pakistan "aid" to the tune of $800 million for the creation of a hydrogen bomb.

Another feature emerged during this trip which is characteristic of Pakistan's foreign policy course today. In Ankara Ziaul Haq considered it necessary to stress once again his government's "special relations" with Beijing. The strengthening cooperation between Beijing and Islamabad, which is concered above all with the military sphere, is giving rise to justifiable concern in India. Expressing his concern, Indian Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao noted at a recent meeting with journalists in Delhi that "China's construction of a naval base near Karachi is an integral part of a series of steps to extend that cooperation."

The results of Ziaul Haq's trip and the statements he made during his tour of Middle Eastern countries indicate that Islamabad remains under the thumb of Washington and Beijing, which are using it for their own militarist purposes and to promote their own expansionist aspirations.

DRA TRADE UNION LEADERS HOLD PRECONGRESS SEMINAR

LD221700 Moscow TASS in English 1010 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Kabul, 22 Jan, TASS--A seminar of leaders of urban and provincial councils of Afghanistan's trade unions was opened here to discuss intensification of the activity of trade unions, their bigger contribution to the socioeconomic development of the country and preparation for the forthcoming first congress of trade unions of Afghanistan. Suttar Purdeli, the chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, delivered the main report. Participants in the seminar stressed in their speeches that the forthcoming congress would be a major stage in the development of the trade union movement in Afghanistan, would make it possible to unite still more workers and artisans, who in single ranks would wage the struggle against the forces of counter-revolution and for the country's prosperity.

AUCCTU LEADERS RECEIVE AFGHAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW

LD231259 Moscow TRUD in Russian 20 Jan 81 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Meeting in AUCCTU"]

[Text] On 19 January AUCCTU Chairman A.I. Shibayev received Habib Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR. During the conversation, which proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere, there was discussion of questions of mutual interest. AUCCTU Secretary A.M. Subbotin and AUCCTU International Department Chief V.Ye. Mozhayev took part in the conversation.

GLUKHOV COMMENTS ON 'PERIOD OF CHANGE' IN DRA

LD270020 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Yuriy Glukhov of our staff shares impressions of his recent trip to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The first thing that catches your eye is that Afghanistan is going through a period of change. It is doing its best to overcome backwardness and ignorance. [Words indistinct] but the most striking thing has occurred in people themselves, ordinary Afghan working people who for the first time feel masters of their country. I visited the textile factory in (Baghran) on Friday, which is a day off. Though the looms stood idle the factory was not empty. A group of workers was on patrol. These security measures and the work effort of the staff have the goal of keeping up the production, overcoming difficulties, improving managerial skill and safeguarding the interests of the country as a whole. There is ample proof everywhere that people are determined to defend their gains. In the capital, Kabul, you can often see villagers from remote provinces, tribal chiefs and farmers' representatives, come to Kabul to express solidarity with the revolutionary government and the People's Democratic Party. Everyday more and more people return home after a long ordeal abroad.

The Afghan Government sees its priority in coping with the deepseated backwardness and maintain a high living standard for all people. This we heard from a member of the Political Bureau of the party and deputy prime minister, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand. Much is being done to boost agriculture which employes three-fourths of the country's population. The government helps the farmers. A democratic agrarian reform now underway has already given land to 300,000 farmers free of charge and for eternal use. Industry is developing, too. About 60 new factories are under construction. Much assistance, the deputy prime minister (?told me), comes from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Afghanistan's development would undoubtedly be faster were it not for the imperialist interference in the country's affairs. To cover up this interference a slander campaign is being stepped up over an imaginary Afghan problem. Behind the campaign the United States and China are using some reactionary Islamic regimes to carry out their own hegemonistic schemes [words indistinct] to normalize the situation (?involved) in Afghanistan it's vital to stop the imperialist interference. The Afghan people are entitled to live the life they want and no-one has the right to interfere.

KONDRASHOV REVIEWS AUSTRALIAN ANTI-SOVIET POLICY

LD261659 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 81 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Kondrashov's "IZVESTIYA Review": "Australia: Hot Summer"]

[Excerpt] Australia's budget for fiscal 1980-81 clearly reflected a course of militarization. Appropriations for military spending increased 5 percent and in the current fiscal year will reach $3.54 billion [presumably Australian]. In the next 5 years Australia's military spending is expected to increase by 7 percent per year and will total 17.6 billion dollars. That was in March, and in June Prime Minister Fraser, according to a report in THE FINANCIAL TIMES, rejected "requests from the premiers of state governments for extra appropriations to be earmarked for the needs of public health, housing construction, education and social security on the grounds that defense tasks require more money."

Defense? As is well known, Australia has decided to purchase from the United States 75 of the most modern fighters and several warships and to construct and improve military bases, including the Stirling base on the West Coast, which it is planned to turn into an anchorage for American ships carrying nuclear weapons. Millions of dollars are being spent on a propaganda campaign aimed at increasing the number of ground forces reservists.

Australia's war preparations are proceeding to the unceasing accompaniment of an unbridled anti-Soviet campaign and the rumble and crackle of inflammatory demagogic speeches by representatives of rightwing forces. It is this that has provided the "propaganda support" for several expensive military deals with the United States. As a result the Pentagon can now utilize more than 20 facilities on Australian territory. The U.S.-published WALL STREET JOURNAL points out that the U.S. CIA staff working at the Pine Gap Base "is the biggest outside the agency's headquarters in Langley" and that the base has assumed still greater significance with the loss of the American tracking stations in Iran.

The military cooperation between Australia and the United States is becoming increasingly extensive. The two countries are taking part in joint maneuvers, and Washington's actions aimed at increasing the activity of the ANZUS military pact are meeting with a favorable reaction in Canberra. Australia and the United States have reached agreement on using certain military bases on the fifth continent to station American B-52 bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons. It has been reported that the aircraft will make flights over the Indian Ocean.

They may be sent actually into the Persian Gulf region, THE NATIONAL TIMES wrote, citing Pentagon spokesmen. The paper emphasized: "Washington has intimated that the air force bases in western Australia will be used in the event of military operations in the Near East." And the U.S. plans vis-a-vis that region, the paper notes, include actions to seize the Arab countries' oil deposits. Lifting the veil of secrecy over military cooperation with the United States, the Australian press is writing of the possibility of the stockpiling of nuclear weapons on Australian soil and the elaboration of plans for permanently stationing in Australia American armed forces numbering 10,000 men.

The Pentagon military has recently been stepping up pressure on Australia's Government over the failure to meet the timetable for commissioning an American tracking station that was supposed to have been finished back in July of last year. The station, part of the Omega observation and communications system, is intended to serve the American air and naval forces in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. B-52 strategic bombers carrying nuclear weapons are also supposed to be on its "books."

However, the decision of the strategists across the ocean has come up against resistance from ordinary Australians. Construction workers from Melbourne, 250 km from where it was planned to create this new U.S. military facility, have been on strike for 3 months now.

Australia's increasingly deep involvement in the Pentagon's militarist plans is prompting protests from the fifth continent's progressive public. Representatives of trade unions, university circles and various public organizations are pointing out that Canberra has gone too far down the road of military cooperation with the United States. "We have not only become U.S. junior partners and yes-men," Prof N. Butlin of the Australian National University writes, "but are also on the brink of eclipsing even the American hawks."

Bitter Fruits

"Just a few years ago," (J. Kamilleri), prominent public figure from Victoria, notes, "no one could even have imagined that Australia would return to the drab 'with America to the end' policy, but that is exactly what has happened." The authors of these remarks point out that Australia's close military cooperation with the United States and its active role in implementing the plans for creating the so-called Pacific ring that is being hammered together by imperialist forces are causing considerable damage to Australia's international prestige and prompting growing mistrust from its northern neighbors, and the ASEAN countries in particular. And this is no accident. Australia's protectionist foreign trade policy has placed practically insurmountable obstacles in the way of goods from the ASEAN countries.

The schemes for resurrecting the "defensive agreements" between Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia and Britain can scarcely serve to strengthen trust, either.

Where may this extremely risky foreign policy course lead Australia? Many Australians are now asking themselves that question. It has been hotly debated of late in connection with the publication of the books "Australian Military and Foreign Policy Documents for 1968-1975" and "A Suitable Form of Real Estate: The American Bases in Australia," which contain, so the authorities claim, "confidential government information that may damage Australia's international relations."

Commentators emphasize that the government is extremely reluctant to acquaint Australians with the whole spectrum of relations between Canberra and Washington. Unreserved support for the U.S. adventurist course has already cost the ruling coalition dearly. Have the Liberal Party and National Country Party learned the lesson of the results of the recent elections? It is hard to say. As the Canberra TIMES stresses, "The Labor Party is once again in the position of a powerful opposition that has to be reckoned with."

...The weather in Australia is still dry and hot. Papers write that the drought will make it possible to harvest only 9.8 million tons of wheat, compared with last season's 16.1 million tons, it is also hot on the political horizon. The lightning of class battles is flashing in many regions of the continent--working Australia is demanding changes. The struggle for peace, for a better life, and against the threat of war and the dangerous war preparations is gathering strength.

LOMEYKO ATTACKS ANTISOCIALIST FORCES IN POLAND

LD261201 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jan 81 p 14

[Vladimir Lomeyko article: "Who Is Making Holes in the Polish Boat"]

[Text] After us, the deluge. That is the logic of the antisocialist elements in Poland, who, some surreptitiously and some openly, with sleeves rolled up, are drilling and gouging holes in the boat in which Poles are sailing the stormy seas of political events. These people, who surfaced in the wave of discontent at the trouble in the economy, are seeking at all costs to divert the boat from the course of socialist renewal in order to take it to noncommunist shores. They sow sedition among their fellow citizens with provocative rumors and appeals, since stability is contraindicated for the implementation of their plans. They call on those who in the West share their views in order to cause a wave of external pressure.

They are people such as Moczulski, who heads the "Confederation for an Independent Poland" subversive organization, and Kuron and Michnik, ideologists on the so-called "Social self-Defense Committee" and "Workers' Self-Defense Committee."

And although each of them pontificates in his own way, for many months now pictures of all three have constantly featured in bourgeois publications in all the Western countries. They are eagerly given a platform.

However, is it any wonder that Moczulski, Kuron, Michnik and their like stand duty as heroes among such "friends" of Polish workers such as Springer and Strauss, among figures who have not lost their appetite for Silesia, or Brzezinski and Kirkland, who exude poison at the mention of "socialism"?

The hissing of antisocialist foam in Poland is music to the ears of the strategists of "rolling back" and "eroding" communism and gratifies them with illusions of a possible chance in the East. The gloating of the hereditary anticommunists in the West is not surprising. It is something else that is surprising. Namely the cynicism and adventurism of ideologists who pose as "defenders of democracy" and "defenders of the workers" while at the same time running after their newfound friends from NATO, who make no secret of their hopes of undermining socialism in Poland and of tearing the country away from the Warsaw Pact. The astonishing thing is that there are still naive people who have not completely grasped just where the silver-tongued sirens of extraclass freedom are inviting Poles to go, or what the strategy of permanent chaos threatens not just for Poland but also for peace and stability in Europe.

One of the most outspoken of the Polish antisocialists is Moczulski. His credo is this: by continuing to rock the boat, to throw the Polish communists overboard and leave the socialist haven for "free navigation" on international waters beneath a pseudoneutral flag. In an interview with the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL back in September, Moczulski declared:

"Our goal is an independent, sovereign Poland free from Soviet domination and from total dictatorship by the PZPR.... As for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Poland, they must all go, step by step but right down to the last battalion. We, the 'Confederation for an Independent Poland,' in actual fact advocate that there emerge in the country new political parties that would eventually end the communists' power."

In his articles, which have been widely disseminated by the emigre press and subversive radio stations--CIA mouthpieces such as Radio Free Europe--Moczulski has given open instructions to those who share his views: "The optimum solution...is a gradually strengthening ramified revolution that moves by crawling leopard fashion." "The communists are on the retreat."

"They must be given no respite. We must strike and go onto the offensive."

Those are the aims of a political adventurist who, disregarding the desire of the majority of Poles for peace and stability based on socialist renewal, is essentially provoking internal disorders and conflicts.

"We reject a program of evolution," Moczulski declares, "for we do not want to transform the existing system while retaining its basic structure, but to destroy that structure.... It is impossible to rule out a situation in which various forms of armed struggle...could be the most successful and necessary method of operation."

Only a person without the elementary sense of responsibility for the life of his cocitizens and the fate of his homeland can set some Poles at loggerheads with others by calling for the destruction of the socialist system, with which the lives, fates and future of millions of Poles are linked.

Moczulski does have his yes-men, but most of them prefer to fight against socialism covertly. These people avoid betraying their antisocialist thoughts so outspokenly and resort to camouflage. For many years they spoke virtually in support of socialism under the flag of improving it. And when the question of creative participation in the process of socialist renewal did indeed appear on the agenda, these people engaged in political acrobatics, performing pseudodemocratic contortions to cover up their antisocialist tricks.

A graphic example is the notorious Kuron. It was not for nothing that the newspaper ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI compared his behavior to a wirewalker seeking to avoid extremes. But it is precisely the verbal wirewalking that betrays Kuron's ulterior motives. In an interview with DER SPIEGEL, turning himself into a patriot who understands the seriousness of the situation, he declares: "If it is a question of the people's life, whether we like it or not, the greatest caution is required." And he even warns: "The overthrow of state power is completely out of the question in view of external factors."

The last five words give the "patriot" away. Kuron is not abandoning his goal--to change the system--he is merely proposing for the time being to pick up another weapon. What? In his article "What Next?" Kuron wrote that the new trade unions and the other organizations that are being created must gradually replace the existing state power in Poland. To wreck the economy and cause chaos and confusion in the country--that is what Kuron is aiming at.

Here are the instructions Kuron gives his supporters:

"We will have to limit, step by step, the spheres of socioeconomic life under the command of the party-state apparatus."

ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI wrote that Kuron is calling for confrontation. The existence of the people's power in the country nags at him. With his characteristic cynicism he expresses regret that the new trade union movement cannot demand the overthrow of political power, but he believes that it can create organs that will threaten that power.

Taking cover behind the mandate of "trade unions expert," Kuron tries to introduce his antisocialist views into the environment, he incites the workers to stage disorders and at the same time misleads public opinion in the country and abroad.

Michnik performs a scenario that is still more complex in form. Taking cover behind hypocritical concern for national interests, he stated recently: "Poland needs calm and stabilization--everyone is unanimous on that. The argument is only about the methods whereby the calm can be secured."

Just what kind of methods are these? Michnik suggests operating by means of ultimatums: Either the state fulfills all the demands he and his friends intend to hang round society's neck, or the state will have only itself to blame.

The whole point is, however, that Michnik himself and company are doing everything possible to toss up more and more unrealistic demands provoking some workers to strike. The aim remains the same--"step by step to fuel tension" by shaking the system's economic foundation and undermining socialism.

In an essay with the lyrical title "Time of Hope" published in the September issue of DER SPIEGEL, Michnik wrote: "I believe that the opposition circles' reply to the questions which arise will depend on the behavior of the state authorities. Unless the Gdansk agreements are observed by the state authorities, Poland and Europe will be faced with such powerful social and political upheavals that the strikes in August 1980 will be remembered as an era of calm and stability. It would be a good thing if my country's neighbors in the East and the West realized that."

Michnik's tactic is aimed at gradually infiltrating the existing system in order to shatter it from within. Realizing that the workers' protest was directed not against socialism and not against Poland's alliance ties but against incorrect methods of economic management and administration, gentlemen like Michnik are seeking to hinder the efforts of the PZPR and the Polish public to right the wrong. That is why in the presence of others they beat their breasts and give assurances of loyalty while at the same time concealing a stone in their bosom.

"None of those who should be taken seriously is advancing unrealistic demands and not a single serious person will question the existing international alliances. Indeed, no one is formulating a thesis for the overthrow of the Communist Party and no one is seeking to deprive it of power," Michnik states hypocritically, and adds a "small" rider: "What I am talking of is merely the restriction of this power and a new formulation of the principles of this power's functioning."

The true worth of such speeches becomes particularly clear if you compare them with what the same Michnik has said earlier. In mid-September 1980 in DER SPIEGEL he stated: "It is indisputable that...the opposition has frequently proclaimed as its goals the desire for parliamentary democracy and the state's independence."

And even earlier, on 15 March 1977, Michnik wrote, in DER SPIEGEL again, "no one in Poland counts on Western military aid, yet the governments of the Western states can bring influence to bear on the situation in Poland."

This appeal was heard in the West by all those who build their calculations on fueling difficulties in the socialist countries. These calculations were reinforced by an increase in CIA funding for the activity of subversive radio stations, primarily Radio Free Europe, and in particular its Polish section, and for the creation of all sorts of committees in the West European countries in "support" of human rights in Poland.

Yet is it not symptomatic that it is precisely the U.S. labor union bosses--who eliminate, where necessary by physical means, any insubordinate element from their ranks, as was the case with the murder of the rebel union leader Jablonski--who, in an excess of "disinterested" sympathy for the striking Polish workers, have earmarked $140,000!

After the events in August 1980 the U.S. and West European press inpudently voiced the hope of exploiting the internal Polish difficulties in NATO's military-political strategy and tactics. Thus NEWSWEEK frankly noted that the events which had taken place in Poland "accord with the Western and NATO interests."

Italy's CORRIERE DELLA SERA stated in December that the Common Market countries and the United States "could manipulate the Polish crisis with a view to intensifying the difficulties and destabilizing the socialist bloc." Is it not indicative that both Brzezinski and Carter voiced particular satisfaction at the discussion of the Polish issue at the NATO session, where the strategy and tactics of the struggle against the Warsaw Pact countries are elaborated.

Of course, these hopes are doomed to failure. But the shortsightedness of those who are gloating over the present events in Poland does not cease to amaze us. After all, even many politicians in the West who are still capable of making sober judgments realize that any form of interference in the affairs of the socialist community, all the more so an attempt to weaken the unity of the Warsaw Pact countries, is fraught with a threat to peace, security and stability in Europe.

Rash calculations are being made by antisocialist forces in Poland and beyond its borders who are counting on undermining the socialist system in Poland. The Polish newspaper GLOS PRACY has described as adventurism the aims of the ideologists from the "Social Self-Defense Committee" and the "Workers' Defense Committee" published in the emigre newspapers DZIENNIK POLSKI and DZIENNIK ZOLNIERZA. "The weaker the authorities, unable to adapt their policy to the situation, then the more rapidly the opposition movement will become radical. Displaying radicalism means opposing the authorities and their political structures."

The antisocialist forces in Poland are operating in various ways. Yet their designs are the same--to plunge Poland into chaos, reckoning that even if things do not turn out in a way that suits the counterrevolution then at least they will prevent the rectification of the situation, which is what the PZPR and the people's power are seeking. To the antisocialist forces it is not important what all this costs the Poles. Just one thing is important to them at present--preventing the stabilization of the situation on the basis of socialism, and their most urgent task is to make things not better but worse.

While sighing hypocritically that "we are all in the same boat and can all go down with it," the "quiet counterrevolutionary" Michnik is trying surreptitiously to gouge another hole in the bottom.

POLAND: TIME TO REPLACE ANARCHY WITH DIALOGUE

LD271210 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] The Polish Army newspaper ZOLNIEZ WOLNOSCI says the government is applying maximum effort to normalize the situation in the country. However, the leadership of the Solidarity Union has unleashed another campaign of strikes. Some Solidarity units are displaying aggressiveness towards state and administrative authorities. The paper writes that more attempts are being made to attain decisions by threat. The article says that the time has come to replace anarchy and chaos by a reasonable dialogue. The newspaper notes that the door for such a dialogue is still open. But there can be no talk of a dialogue when actions leading to a confrontation are attempted.

POLISH ARMED FORCES CIVILIANS CONGRESS HELD

LD261905 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Warsaw--Speaking at a congress of representatives of the Polish Army's civil employees, PZPR Central Committee Politburo member and Minister of National Defense Jaruzelski noted that all workers of the various branches of the Polish Armed Forces turned up for work on Saturday, 24 January. In this way, the minister said, they opposed the danger of chaos, weakening of discipline and a further deterioration in the economic situation in Poland.

The congress participants recalled the PZPR's leading role in society. They stressed that they will continue to stand on the platform of principles of a socialist structure fixed by the Constitution, public ownership of the means of production, and Poland's existing international alliances. The congress adopted a call to all Polish working people which says in particular: We call upon the country's working people to engage actively in the process of socialist development, to strive to stabilize the situation, and to show political good sense and responsibility for the people's fate and security.

The country needs calm, unity and order, those taking part in the congress stress. We oppose demagogy and politicking; we call for realism and responsibility; we want to live in peace, to work calmly and strengthen the country's defense capability to the best of our ability. Our future is socialism and the successful development of the Polish People's Republic.

MILITARY EDUCATORS AWARDED POLISH MEDALS IN KIEV

LD270943 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jan 81 p 3

[Col Ye. Babynin report: "Presentation of Polish Awards"]

[Text] W. Novak, Polish general consul in Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine, presented awards to representatives of the command and teaching staff of Kiev's Air Defense Higher Engineering Radiotechnical School and the Kiev S.M. Kirov Higher Antiaircraft Missile Engineering School.

Maj Gen F. Polyakov, Col I. Voronin, V. Belous, N. Latyshev, Col Engr V. Bedin and other officers were awarded the Brotherhood in Arms Medal for their high standard of training of military cadres for the Polish Army.

GROMYKO RECEIVES GDR'S FISCHER UPON MOSCOW ARRIVAL

LD261546 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan, TASS--Member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Foreign Minister of the GDR Oskar Fischer came to Moscow for a visit today at the invitation of the Soviet Government. At the airport he was met by a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, other Soviet officials, and also the GDR Ambassador in the USSR Egon Winkelmann.

KAPITONOV RECEIVES HUNGARIAN YOUTH DELEGATION

LD262252 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1850 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today received a delegation of the Hungarian Communist Youth League, headed by Fejti, first secretary of the Central Committee, which is staying in the Soviet Union. The conversation touched on topical questions of youth work and party leadership of Komsomol organizations.

BAYBAKOV, ZAREV DISCUSS USSR-BULGARIAN COOPERATION

LD261509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 81 p 4

[TASS report: "Questions of Economic Cooperation Discussed"]

[Text] A conversation took place in Moscow on 21 January between N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan, and K. Zarev, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Bulgarian State Committee for Planning. Questions of the further development of economic cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria were discussed. D. Zhulev, Bulgaria's ambassador to the USSR participated in the conversation.

WESTERN EUROPE

FOREIGN MINISTRY CRITICIZES PERTINI'S REMARKS

LD270928 Moscow TASS in English 0852 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jan, TASS--Italy's ambassador to Moscow was summoned today to the Foreign Ministry of the USSR, where he was told that the Soviet Government regarded it as necessary to state the following to the Italian Government.

Several public pronouncements by Italy's President Alessandro Pertini have aroused serious bewilderment in the Soviet Union, to say no more. This refers, specifically, to his recent French television interview in which he tried to create the impression as if the centre, directing the Italian terrorists from the so-called "Red Brigades", allegedly is in the Soviet Union. Such obviously absurd assertions would not deserve any attention if they had not been made at such official level. The leadership of Italy cannot but be aware of the principled position of the Soviet state, which has always denounced and is denouncing terrorism.

The statement emphasises that any concoctions, throwing aspersions on this position, are insulting to the Soviet Union and obviously run counter to the friendly nature of Soviet-Italian relations, as they took shape in recent years.

CPSU SENDS GREETINGS TO ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

LD260953 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 81 p 1

[Text] To the Italian Communist Party [PCI] Central Committee

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates the communists and all working people of Italy on the PCI's 60th anniversary.

Emerging in 1921 on the wave of intensive class battles for the liberation of the working person from capitalist exploitation, the revolutionary party of the Italian proletariat, under the leadership of A. Gramsci and P. Togliatti, resolutely dissociated itself from reformist compromises and opportunist timeserving and rose up under the banner of the great ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin, adopting class internationalist positions in the struggle for the ideals of peace, freedom, democracy and socialism.

The PCI fought actively against fascism and imperialist reaction both within the country in the resistance movement and outside the country. Italian communists inscribed many glorious pages in the heroic annals of the battles against fascism. The Soviet people remember that Soviet and Italian communists, as well as communists from other countries, fought together in the international brigades in Spain and that more than 5,000 Soviet patriots took part in the liberation war of Italian democratic forces against fascism on Italian territory.

Defending its country's national interests, the PCI has done a great deal to strengthen solidarity with the forces of freedom, peace and progress, has organized mass demonstrations of many thousands of people against the arms race and has exposed the aggressive nature of imperialism. These efforts gain particular significance within the framework of the common struggle of the entire communist movement in support of the relaxation of international tension and against imperialism's desire to change the world correlation of forces in its own favor and to discredit the forces of socialism, peace and progress.

Advocating the unification of the working class, the working peasantry and all democratic forces, the PCI wages a struggle in defense of the working people's vital interests, for the limitation of monopolies' power and for democracy and social progress in its country. The PCI is a political force in the country without which the problems of economic, political and social development which face Italy cannot be resolved.

Soviet communists wish you, dear comrades, successes in strengthening the party's ties with the masses and in the working people's struggle for peace, democracy and socialism and for friendship between Italy and the Soviet Union.

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

DEMICHEV DEPARTS FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO HELSINKI

LD251946 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of culture, today left Moscow for Helsinki on an official visit. He was seen off by Kuznetsov candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials.

SOVIET PAPER CARRIES BONN DISPATCH ON REVANCHISM

LD241636 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Here is a dispatch from Bonn, published in today's issue of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA:

Leaders of revanchist organization and number of politicans of rightwing persuasion have over the past few weeks made provocative statements in which they formulated their claims to a "return" of the Polish territories and restoration of the great German Reich within the 1937 borders.

They do not wish to conceal the fact that in the subversive activities of the antisocialist elements in Poland they see a possibility for attaining their revisionist objectives. Herbert Czaja, the leader of the revanchist Union of Exiles, who is ar active figure of the Christian Democratic Union/ Christian Socialist Union [CDU/CSU] faction in the Bundestag, has produced a series of publications in which he formulated the union's tasks for the current year. We must, at all costs, keep the German problem open in all its aspects, he stated, thinking of the desire to swallow up the socialist GDR and to annex the Polish territories.

Ratza a former Bundeswehr general and now the leader of the regional Association of Germans from Western Prussia, has also made attempts to use the events in Poland for the purpose of undisguised interference in its internal affairs. In a new year message to the members of the association, the general stated that one could not regard the current situation in the balance of forces in Poland as final. We should not give up hope for border changes in Europe. Our western [as heard] Prussia should be in the consciousness of all Germans.

Hupka, OCDU deputy to the Bundestag and the leader of the regional Association of Germans from Slask states: Our aim is a free Slask. This is our supreme political task. Analogous claims are being made by leaders of the regional Association of Germans from Pomorze, Von Bismarck, CDU; regional Association of Germans from Eastern Prussia, Henning, CDU; representatives of other revanchist groups.

The West German bourgeois mass media very readily respond to all these provocative appeals. Deutschlandfunk, Deutsche Welle, and the Bavarian radio station which, as is known, are financed from the FRG state budget, are among the media participating actively in the anti-Polish campaign.

These revanchist maneuvers harm the cause of detente and peace in Europe. They are tantamount to interference in Poland's internal affairs, emphasizes the weekly DIE TAT in this connection.

GROMYKO RECEIVES ENVOY OF MOROCCO'S KING HASSAN

LD261680 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1635 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan (TASS)--Minister Azzedine Guessous, personal representative of King Hassan II of Morocco, arrived in Moscow today. At the request of the Moroccan side, Guessous was received by Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR minister of foreign affairs. In the course of the conversation they reviewed questions of bilateral Soviet-Moroccan relations, and also of a number of international problems of mutual interest, including the situation in the Near East. Andrey Gromyko gave a luncheon in honor of Guessous.

COMMENT ON ISRAELI POLICY, CAMP DAVID DEAL

LD261628 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan, TASS--TASS news analyst Nataliya Zinovyeva writes:

The bloc of the Israeli ruling parties Likud has made a fresh attempt to carry through before the planned July general elections the plan of actual annexation of the occupied territory of the Western Bank of the River Jordan. It has been announced that 10 new paramilitary settlements are to be built there in the months to go before the elections, as a result, the number of Israeli settlers there will almost double.

Not so long ago the Begin government assured that it would build the last ten settlements, and that would be all. After that there came new figures--another three settlements are under construction, another two, and then more and more. A broad-scale settlement of the Western Bank, the construction of new Israeli advanced posts are now being openly proclaimed. And this means that Arab residents will be evicted by force from the places planned for settlements, their houses will be demolished and the lands, the source of their existence, will be turned into construction sites. This means new repressions against those who would dare to protest, new human tragedies.

The verbal exercises of the Zionist leadership are a surprise to nobody. These are nothing but a fig-leaf which covers up the policy of annexation of the Israeli-captured Arab lands, the gross flouting of the Palestinians' rights by Israel. This course is a direct consequence of the separate Camp David deal, connivance on the part of Egypt and the United States. On the strength of that the responsibility for Israel's actions which it perpetrates with impunity rests with the As-Sadat regime and the Washington administration.

All political observers hold the unanimous opinion that the Likud bloc will suffer a defeat at the July elections. But then the French radio transmitted a speech by the leader of the Israeli oppositional Labour Party, i.e. candidate for the Premiership Shimon Peres. The policy he expounded is based on the same Camp David collusion and in its basis it does not differ at all from Begin's present-day policy. Peres tried to exert pressure on Jordan, to push it onto the road of "a peaceful settlement" of a Camp David type. But how can Arab countries agree with such a road which runs counter to the U.N. decisions. It is to be recalled that the U.N. General Assembly in its resolution adopted in December last year came out "against all partial agreements and separate treaties which are a gross violation of the rights of the Palestinian people", and declared that these are invalid. The Soviet Union repeatedly set forth its stand on the Middle East problem. The Soviet Union stands for full withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands, for ensuring the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine, including their inalienable right to have a state of their own, just as ensuring the rights of all states of the Middle East to independent existence and development. It is only on this basis that a comprehensive, durable and really fair settlement of the Middle East problem is possible.

Israel's new annexationist plan, which is being speeded up by the Begin government, is bound to meet a resolute rebuff and condemnation from the United Nations, all progressive forces of the world.

FURTHER REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON EL SALVADOR

CP Official on Successes

PY270230 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Schafik Jorge Handal, a member of the Farabundo Marti Military Political Board and secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party, has issued an address to all nations in representation of all the soldiers of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMN]. In a recent interview held in San Salvador Schafik Jorge Handal, secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party Central Commitee, expressed his gratitude to world opinion for the solidarity and support that has been expressed to the struggle of the Salvadoran people. He said: I know that all of our friends throughout the world are closely following events in El Salvador. The unpopular reactionary junta and the propaganda apparatus grossly distort the real situation in El Salvador to discredit the progress of the patriotic forces.

For the first time in the history of the struggle of the Salvadoran people, the patriotic forces headed by the FLN started a strong offensive on 10 January which forced the junta troops to start defensive measures. In succeeding days the rebel detachments have obtained important victories. They have extended their control over vast areas and they have established rear guards on all their fronts. The FLN detachments control strategic communications. In several regions under their control they are establishing popular control organizations.

The secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party has condemned Washington's policy toward El Salvador and toward other Central American countries by describing it as an adventurist and irresponsible policy. He said: The United States is intervening in domestic affairs. In its effort to defeat the patriotic forces in El Salvador the United States is supplying armament to the junta and it is drafting plans to intervene in El Salvador through the involvement of troops from Guatemala and Honduras. But by doing this Washington will only extend the Salvadoran conflict to the entire reigon, thus making Latin America into another focus of international tension.

Schafik Jorge Handal noted the great importance of international solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people, particularly the solidarity shown by the peoples of the socialist community.

Progress Report

PY261556 Moscow in Spanish to Cuba 0000 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] The clandestine radio station Liberation of the Salvadoran patriots has made a report on the results of the first 10 days of the general offensive by units of the Farabundo Marti Front. In a commentary on those results, Vladimir Korotkov writes:

The first stage of the offensive was successful for the rebels. The battles led to a strengthening of the positions of the patriots, who won many of the fights and gained much experience. [Words indistinct] the task of destroying the junta's air force which was constantly attacking the population. This task has been almost completely fulfilled and most of the regime's planes and helicopters have been shot down or destroyed on the airfields (?despite the fact that) Washington has increased its urgent military deliveries to the junta, above all the delivery of military planes to offset those losses.

But it is not only a question of the patriots' military successes which have caused a considerable number of casualties in the junta army equipped and trained by the United States. The first days of the insurrection in El Salvador have compelled world opinion to turn its attention to the events in that Central American country and the unseemly role played there by Washington. The United States is increasingly aiding the junta, which is trying to stamp out popular resistance, and it is ready to undertake direct armed intervention in that country to protect its interests.

Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo, the World Peace Council, the World Federation of Trade Unions and many leaders of political parties and organizations in several continents have made statements in support of the Salvadoran people's struggle and against the American intervention plans. Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has said in the House of Commons of the Federal Parliament that Canada does not intend to follow the American policy regarding El Salvador. He said he does not favor or support military aid to the Salvadoran junta. The most important political parties and labor unions in Ecuador have severely condemned foreign interference in Salvadoran domestic affairs. They stress in a joint statement that any foreign intervention would lead to a spread of the conflict throughout Central America. The sympathy and political (?support) of the Caribbean countries are also on the side of the Salvadoran patriots. Meanwhile, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front has reported that its units are reorganizing to intensify hostilities. The patriots are firmly determined to win the struggle for democracy and social justice.

Mashkin on 'Disinformation'

PY262107 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Valentin Mashkin's commentary from the "Focus on El Salvador" feature]

[Text] The press of the capitalist world has raised dust over an alleged new guerrilla landing--which was described in detail--in El Salvador. According to military sources, three barges attempted to land on the Pacific coast, 34 km south of San Salvador. I say "new" landing because military sources already reported a week ago that more than 100 guerrillas had attempted to enter the country through the El Cuco beach. The Salvadoran Government contended that the would-be infiltrators came from Nicaragua. This charge was denied outright by the Nicaraguan officials. Apart from reports on alleged landings, reports on smuggling arms have also originated in El Salvador and in neighboring countries. For instance, the Honduran police claimed to have seized several shipments of arms from Nicaragua and Cuba. All these reports are part of widespread, malicious accusations that the Salvadoran guerrillas are receiving military and logistic support from Nicaragua and Cuba. They are part of a disinformation campaign.

Indeed, I believe that by raising dust over the alleged foreign intervention in the domestic affairs of El Salvador, the United States is trying to justify its growing intervention in that country. Among other things, it seeks to justify its increased military aid to the genocidal junta and to clear the way for an armed intervention either by U.S. groups or its allies--through the OAS or the Central American Defense Council.

CUBA'S SANCHEZ VALDES MEETS BAYBAKOV, KATUSHEV

LD231005 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 81 p 4

[Text] TASS--On 19 January N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan, received Irma Sanchez Valdes, president of the Republic of Cuba State Committee for Material and Technical Supply.

They discussed questions relating to future economic cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Cuba in the course of a conversation which took place in a friendly atmosphere.

On the same day N.V. Martynov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gossnab, received Irma Sanchez Valdes.

Katushev Meeting

LD261559 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 81 p 4

[Text] TASS--K.F. Katushev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Irma Sanchez Valdes, president of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply of the Republic of Cuba, on 21 January. Severo Aguirre del Cristo, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, participated in the friendly talk which was held on questions of the development of bilateral economic cooperation.

SHCHERBITSKIY ON UKRAINE PARTY CAMPAIGN RESULTS

AU231548 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY In Russian 18 Jan 81 p 2, 3

[RATAU]report on speech delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, at the Kiev city party conference on 16 January]

[Excerpts] Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, warmly received by the delegates addressed the conference.

Comrades, the conference held by the communists of the Ukraine's capital city is completing the accountability and election campaign in the republic's party organizations. Thus it is completing an important stage in preparation for the 26th party congress. More than 2 million persons took the floor at party conferences and at meetings in basic shop party organizations and party groups. That amounts to two-thirds of the total number of the Ukraine's Communist Party members. This is certainly convincing proof that our party, as great Lenin bequeathed, strictly observes democratic principles and that all communists have equal rights in settling all party affairs. The accountability and election campaign has distinctly manifested the monlithic cohesion of the republic's communists around the Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo with Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the head.

A great impact on the work of rayon, city and oblast conferences was made by the CPSU Central Committee draft, "The Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-85 and for the Period Through 1990." The nationwide approval of that important party document and the deep awareness of the tasks set for the future have manifested unanimous support for our party's precongress platform, its domestic and foreign policy and for the multiform and purposeful activity of our party's Central Committee on the party of the communists and all working people of the Ukraine.

Like all Soviet people, the Ukraine's people highly value that in the complex international situation our party's Central Committee and the Soviet Government showed and show Leninist wisdom, firmness and self-control in preventing a worldwide thermonuclear conflict. Regardless of the difficulties and obstacles from imperialism and its assistants, the line of peace and detente is making its way and meeting with support on the part of all progressive mankind. And we Soviet people and the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries have always been firmly loyal to that line.

Comrades, at meetings and conferences many specific proposals and critical remarks were made. Certainly, this is also a very essential fact. It reflects the principled and strict attitude of communists to assessing the results of our work. Party conferences and meetings have generalized the enormous experience accumulated by the republic's party organizations in organizational and political work carried out in the process of implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

As you know, soon--on 10 February--the 26th Ukrainian Communist Party Congress will open. It will closely examine the results of work performed by the republic's party organization and our current tasks for the 11th 5-year period. For this reason there is no need to speak on that subject today. I would just like to report that owing to the selfless toil of the workers class, the kolkhoz peasantry's intelligence, the persistent labor of party organizations and the close cooperation and mutual assistance among the country's fraternal republics, our Soviet Ukraine has made substantial progress in all directions of economic and social development.

There is every reason to say that the part played by the working people of the republic's capital city in the results attained is significant. Data published by the Central Statistical Administration and quoted by Comrade Yelchenko in the gorkom report, and other facts quoted by many delegates in their speeches convincingly attest to that. Certainly all that, comrades, results from the enormous purposeful organizational and political activity of the city party organization. All that results from the selfless labor performed by the inhabitants of Kiev.

It is said that people enhance the city. Certainly it is not said in vain. It is the heroic workers class which creates and multiplies labor glory for our republic's capital city at the enterprises and projects in the city. Kiev is renowned for many talented production organizers and for its leaders of large labor collectives, who are well known in the republic. The contribution made by the scientists of the republic's capital city toward Soviet and world science is enormous. Kiev takes legitimate pride in its remarkable physicians and teachers. A large detachment of the creative intelligentisia--prominent masters in literature and art--fruitfully works in Kiev. Comrades, the inhabitants of Kiev with their labor and talents will undoubtedly continue to multiply the glory of the hero city, the Soviet Ukraine's capital city.

Comrades, today many delegates spoke with approval about the work carried out by the city party committee to improve the style and methods of leadership. But I would like to emphasize that we have always been and are stricter in assessing work performed by Kievskiy Gorkom. The more so because the Kiev city party organization has every opportunity to be an example in accomplishing all tasks involving organizational, party political and economic work.

Comrade Shchebitskiy continued with several remarks concerning developing Kiev further as a large industrial, scientific and cultural center in the republic and the country and tackled problems concerning the work performed by the city party organization in the main and decisive area--economic development:

We must firmly set the task: Further production increases in the city can and must be obtained without increasing the labor force, through increased labor productivity alone. That must be seen clearly by everyone--by all city leaders, production collectives and leaders of republic-level organizations. Comrades, there is no other way to accomplish that task but to accelerate scientific-technical progress and to make more effective use of the scientific and production potential that has already been created. And today one can note with satisfaction that the gorkom has done a great deal to accomplish current tasks to increase the effectiveness of communal production. The gorkom has promoted scientific-technical progress. For several years, the main attention was focused on the key issue--the technical reequipment of production and adopting the most up-to-date progressive technology. Six large city-wide programs for special purposes have been worked out and are being put into effect to adopt the most up-to-date achievements of science and technology in production. Expanding and consolidating cooperation between science and production has already produced an economic effect of about R300 million. But I consider that, having in view the scale and complexity of the current tasks, that the work should only be regarded as the beginning of the great work that we must perform in the next 5-year period up to 1990.

For this reason the gorkom, the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences along with ministries and departments must, evidently, fix specific tasks for every scientific collective and must determine what is to be done to raise the technical level of production and to increase labor productivity when this is to be done, and at what enterprise. Comrades, we must not, we simply have no right to permit individual Kiev scientific research institutes, designing bureaus and scientific laboratories as important, as, for example, the all-union designing, planning and technological institute for road construction and municipal machinebuilding, the scientific research designing institute for auxiliary equipment, or even the hydromechanics institute of the Academy of Sciences and some others, to continue to work without due returns.

Kiev institutes must also significantly better set about such an important task as creating an experimental basis for science and developing experimental industrial production units. That will enable them to strengthen their links with production.

The preceding party conference set an important task: to turn out by 1980 one-fifth of production with state quality marks. As it was noted in the gorkom report, a great deal was done in this respect, but that task, comrades, was not fully accompliched. The best quality production amounts to less than 19 percent. As far as this index is concerned, Kiev is in ninth place among the republic's oblasts.

The second problem that must be once again particularly singled out is significantly increasing production, expanding and improving the choice and quality of consumer goods. Recently the Communist Party Central Committee commended the initiative of the collectives of the arsenal plant, the precision electric instruments and the electronic machinery production associations to significantly increase the output and to improve the quality of consumer goods in the current 5-year period. That initiative must meet with wide support. This is the more essential because at a number of Kiev enterprises--particularly at the Lepse plant, the road machines plant, the cement machinebuilding plant and a number of others--the share of those goods does not exceed 1 percent of the total output.

Comrades, we must more persistently and purposefully set about rebuilding enterprises. The CPSU Central Committee in its draft for the 26th party congress says: Capital investments should be primarily used to reconstruct and technically reequip enterprises and to complete projects that had been started before. In the 11th 5-year period, the total volume of capital investments will be set at approximately R5.6 billion. It is evident, comrades, that such large sums must be used in a thrifty and reasonable manner. This is particularly important because a number of Kiev plants and factories--particularly in the food, meat, dairy and local industries--are backward technically and some are simply neglected. Certainly, this does not disturb at all the leaders of our ministries, particularly Comrades Sanov, Solomakha and Gayevskiy, although those enterprises are located, as they say, just around the corner. For this reason the gorkom and the gorispolkom along with the leaders of the corresponding Ukrainian ministries and the Gosplan must certainly work out and implement in the next 5-year period a definite program to rebuild and develop enterprises in those branches.

Comrades, all of us can see that the city is constantly growing and being renewed. And although we build much, in recent time we have failed to erect in the city even one single architechtural project deserving the country's attention. This is the shape in which the construction of the major plazas has been completed.

It is highly important, Comrade Shcherbitskiy emphasized, to cope with the plan for house commissioning and for the comprehensive social development of the city. In recent times, a great deal has been done in Kiev in this respect, but the program has not been fully implemented. The utmost must be done to bring for the most part the number of polyclinics, hospitals, drug stores, trade and public catering enterprises in new residential districts to the standard. As it was noted at the party conference, a great deal has been done in the city to develop the network of children's preschool establishments, but in a number of city districts it is necessary to overcome the lag in solving that important issue.

Many delegates to the city and rayon conferences, Comrade Shcherbitskiy pointed out, criticized shortcomings in the work of the enterprises and organizations of trade, public catering, consumer, municipal and health services. Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy in his speech emphasized the need to improve the organization of public catering at industrial enterprises, educational establishments, to more rapidly switch over canteens to supplying semifinished goods and to provide plants and factories with consumer services.

While dealing with issues concerning food supply for Kiev inhabitants, Comrade Shcherbitskiy called attention to the need in the nearest future to transform Kievskaya Oblast into a zone to guarantee the supplies of agricultural produce to the Ukraine's capital city. A great deal can be done in the field of city-village cooperation. In that respect there are good traditions.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy went on dealing with tasks to protect and improve the environment. Today we should aspire to transform Kiev into a city of high culture and efficiency. That applies both to the efficiency of services and the high standards of artistic culture.

In all that work it is important to take into account the aggravated international situation and the ideological struggle, Comrade Shcherbitskiy pointed out. For this reason it is highly important for party organizations to increase political vigilance, to resolutely rebuff every manifestation of hostile ideology, to unmask the intrigues of hostile forces and uphold the patriotic and internationalist education of the Soviet people. Good experience in ideological work has been accumulated particularly by the labor collectives of the arsenal and the Leninskaya Kuznitsa plants, the Korolev Association and others. Particular pains should be taken with the education of the younger generation.

Continuing with his critical remarks, Comrade Shcherbitskiy set concrete tasks for transforming the Ukraine's capital city into a city of exemplary public order. It is the duty of the communists and all working people to prepare in a worthy manner for the great jubilee: Kiev's 1,500th anniversary Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy went on:

Comrades, successfully implementing the decisions that will be adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress will largely depend on the ability of party organizations to organize in every labor collective the smooth and businesslike fulfillment of major economic and political plans and tasks. The Central Committee attaches great importance to improvements in the work of basic party organizations, to increasing their efficiency, initiative and prestige. We know that almost all party organizations work for the goal of every communist, irrespective of his official status, manifesting his vanguard role in deeds, that he be irreconcilable to shortcomings and be active in the ideological struggle. Unfortunately, we know that there also are party organizations that work poorly, show too little initiative and persistence. For this reason the gorkom and raykoms must be perfectly familiar with the state of affairs in every party organization; must improve the training of party organization secretaries; particularly in those elected for the first time; must give more assistance to them on the spot; persistently publicize the best experience and must increase the responsibility of party raykoms and rayispolkoms for the state of affairs in rayons as a whole and in local party organizations.

Party organizations in city administrative organs must more carefully examine their leaders' style of work, must check on personnel and must aspire that everyone perform his duties with full efficiency.

We must also, comrades, take pains to increase the role and activity of members of elected party organs, including deputies to the city and rayon soviets and aktivs in trade union and Komsomol organizations. That, comrades, belongs to crucial issues concerning the style and methods of work. The party gorkom and rayispolkoms must constantly improve that work.

Comrades, the recent election campaign has provided party organizations with a practical new method, has given party committees a large supply of creative energies. One can say that firm foundations have been laid to further improve all organizational and political activity. We must do a great deal to cope with the proposals made in the discussions on the "Basic Guidelines" and must see to it that collectives fulfill socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 26th party congress and for 1981. We know that city rayons and the city as a whole have fixed their targets.

The political maturity and efficiency of the Kiev city party organization, numbering more than 100,000 members, is the reliable guarantee that it will contribute its worthy part to accomplishing the current tasks, that it will be, as always, a loyal supporter of our party's Leninist Central Committee.

TRUD ON NEED TO COUNTER FOREIGN-BASED EVANGELISM

LD261033 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Jan 81 p 4

[Article by Yu. Sadchenkov, deputy commissioner of the USSR Council of Ministers Council for Religious Affairs for Volgogradskaya Oblast: "In the Guise of Religion"]

[Text] Volgograd--Prof A. Tsygankov, chairman of the Volgograd section of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans, discovered a letter from Australia in his mailbox one day. A religious brotherhood of which he had never heard--"Orthodoxy Abroad"--invited its "dear friend" to fill a gap in his education by reading the enclosed brochures. The letter's authors maintained that it contained no ideological sabotage and requested that its contents be disseminated among his acquaintances.

This method of propagandizing their publications is also used by other religious associations--notably Jehovah's Witnesses, supporters of the so-called Evangelical Christian-Baptists Council of Churches, and the Adventist-Reformists--constantly emphasizing that they are not involved in politics. Yet you only have to open any of their brochures to encounter immediately attacks against our state.

The "orthodoxy" brotherhood, for instance, writes about how pleasant it would be in Russia if the "new order of life" which, the publishers admit, does not suit them, had never been established there. And here is their appeal to the citizens of the USSR: Set up small prayer meetings, make personal contacts with foreign leaders, and they will teach you how to make the "enemy retreat" and the times of the "patriarchal Russia," so dear to their hearts, return.

In their leaflets the Jehovah's Witnesses not only warn but also threaten: If you are not with them, you will be destroyed in the war of Armageddon, so you must choose "life or death". The so-called "Council of Churches" and the Adventist-Reformists paint the blackest picture of persecutions of believers which allegedly take place in our country.

You can understand the indignation of the people who receive these "exhortations." You do not need to be particularly perceptive to see that, under cover of talk about "pure religion," the authors are seeking to push through anti-Soviet ideas and to confuse believers.

All these clerics' methods are not new. "But how dare they," A. Tsygankov, a former defender of Stalingrad, says, "choose as their addressee our city, whose name is a symbol of peace and of Soviet people's loyalty to their motherland and to the gains of October?"

The entire logic of contemporary world development convinces us of the irreversibility of the historical process. The overall crisis of capitalism is manifested primarily in the crisis of bourgeois ideas. Western theories are failing to encounter support in the socialist countries. That is why the gamble today is on the vestiges of religious consciousness which still exists in some people. "Through the church we can act with the greatest effectiveness," U.S. special service employee Allan Dreyfus has stated frankly. "This is the easiest and most reliable method of infiltrating a country."

By trying to confuse believers living in the Soviet Union, the overseas "spiritual fathers" are seeking to push them toward the violation of Soviet laws and to create a dramatic situation in their lives.

That is what happened with two inhabitants of Volgogradskaya Oblast, I. Garbovskiy and A. Raushenberg. Their split consciousness and contradictory ideas and actions frequently surprised their colleagues and neighbors. On the one hand, as Soviet citizens, they were convinced that they should fulfill certain duties to society. Yet, on the other, they immediately stipulated that this depended not on them but on their spiritual mentor in Brooklyn--the "sensible slave," as he calls himself in the literature he sends from abroad. Yes, they realized that the USSR Constitution bans the propaganda of war and the arousing of hostility and hatred in connection with religious beliefs. Yet they passionately set forth in their sermons ideas about the destruction of "this evil world," dividing people into Jehovah's Witnesses and the unjust, who are destined to die. Well aware that Soviet people will not tolerate such propaganda in their country, the "sensible slave" warns: "Hide and, if you are persecuted, it will be for your belief in God; so suffer and endure."

The leaders of the so-called Evangelical Baptists' Council of Churches, are seeking by influencing believers to subordinate believers lives to their own selfish goals. How this occurs can be seen from the example of the fate of Viktor T. On reading the literature of the splittist Baptists, he began to believe in the illusion of spiritual kinship with fellow-believers abroad. But Viktor started to have grave doubts. The point was that the leaders of the Volgograd community of the so-called "Council of Churches" had urged believers to make sacrifices and to pursue justice, yet squabbles, suspicion and power-struggle had become the reality among them.

Viktor imparted his doubts to U.S. tourists, the Romanovs and the Yefimovs, employees of the Voice of the Andes religious radio station, who came to Volgograd. But they were not interested in these problems. They suggested to him that in return for a good payment he should supply tendentious material about the position of believers in the USSR for broadcasting to the West. All this literally shook Viktor and prompted him to think deeply and to expose publicly the true face of his former "spiritual mentors."

Instances of this kind are now the subject of comprehensive analysis at the oblast Znanihe Society organization's Scientific Method Council. In talks with believers its members seek to show how the ideas of clerical anticommunism can distort people's awareness. For instance, surely we cannot tolerate the fact that overseas religious centers seek to impose on believers in the USSR their own ideal fatherland and try to persuade them that they have no motherland in this world but only fellow-countrymen in the shape of their fellow-believers abroad.

Labor collectives do not remain indifferent to the fate of people who have fallen under the influence of political smart operators profiting from religion. Thus, a general meeting of collectives of the rayon production administration of consumer services and the cannery in the city of Leninsk had a principled talk about the profound misconceptions of I. Garbovskiy and A. Raushenberg. While respecting the believers' religious feelings, people sought to help them become aware of their civic duty and to see the inhumanity of the ideas of the literature from Brooklyn.

Such meetings are not easy to hold. Sometimes they leave a bitter after-taste. The conversation was not easy at the session of the local committee of the All-Russian Scientific Research Institute of Irrigated Farming. Collective member V. Poltorausov, who had disseminated literature of a religious nature and preached sermons to....children in a Pioneer camp, was invited to the session. In an aggressive and provocative mood, he could counter his comrades' arguments only with a selection of phrases read from the splittist Baptists' brochures. This confused and lost man, who blindly believes the "voices" from across the ocean, will require a great deal more attention. Such dialogue must be conducted constantly in order to return a person to acutal reality. That is the conclusion which you reach when you encounter such cases.

FIRST DAY OF MOSCOW CITY PARTY CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD261623 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 81 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed "Information Report": "Conference of the Capital's Communists"]

[Text] The routine, 24th conference of the CPSU's Moscow city organization began its work in the Hall of Columns at the House of Unions yesterday.

The delegates greeted Comrades L.I. Brezhnev, Yu. V. Andropov, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, A.P. Kirilenko, A. Ya. Pelshe, M.A. Suslov, N.A. Tikhonov, D.F. Ustinov, K.U. Chernenko, P.N. Demichev. V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, I.V. Kapitonov, V.I. Dolgikh, M.V. Zimyanin and K.V. Rusakov with tumultuous, prolonged applause.

The conference was opened on behalf of the Moscow Gorkom by V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

"In accordance with the party rules the 24th conference of the CPSU's Moscow city organization begins its work today. At the recent rayon party conferences worthy communists, foremost workers, engineers, scientists, employees of party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organs and representatives of the Soviet Army and Navy were elected delegates to the city party conference.

"Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was unanimously elected a conference delegate with great enthusiasm.

"Members and candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretaries of the Central Committee were unanimously elected conference delegates.

"Permit me, on behalf of the conference, cordially to greet dear Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and all the CPSU's leaders and to thank them for participating in the work of our conference.

"The 24th city party conference is a great even in the life of Moscow's communists and working people.

"The 24th city party conference is a great event in the life of Moscow's communists and working people. It is called upon to sum up the work of the gorkom and the entire city party organization during the period under review and to outline tasks for the further realization of the party's economic and social policy and the prospects of communist building and for the intensification of the city party organization's ideological, political and organizational activity."

The Politburo of the party's Central Committee headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee were unanimously elected to the conference presidium with great enthusiasm. Together with them were party veterans, foremost production workers and innovators, scientific and cultural figures, party, soviet and economic workers and representatives of the USSR Armed Forces.

The conference's working organs were elected: Secretariat, Credentials Commission and Editorial Commission.

The agenda was approved:

1. Report by the Moscow Gorkom.

2. Report by the Auditing Commission of the CPSU's Moscow city organization.

3. On the CPSU Central Committee's draft for the 26th party congress "The Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-85 and the Period Through 1990."

4. Election of the Moscow Gorkom.

5. Election of the Auditing Commission of the CPSU's Moscow city organization.

6. Election of delegates to the 26th CPSU Congress.

The Moscow Gorkom's report was delivered by V.V. Grishin, first secretary of Moscow Gorkom.

V.V. Grishin's report was listened to with great attention and was repeatedly interrupted by applause.

The report of the auditing commission, delivered by its chairman B.N. Stapanov, was heard.

The following comrades spoke in the debate: G.A. Kupreyev, first secretary of Baumanskiy Raykom; Yu.A. Limonov, stoker of heat-treating furnaces at the Serp I Molot plant; S.V. Andriyanovia, secretary of the party committee of the Trekhgornaya Manufaktura cotton combine; P.D. Borodin, general director of the Zil Production Association; Z.A. Vasilyeva, teacher and secretary of the party organization at the No 171 school; F.F. Kuznetsov, first secretary of the Moscow Writers Organization Board; G.N. Kaminskiy, chief of the Moscow City Soviet Main Administration of Industrial Construction; N.F. Nimovalova, weaver at the Krasnaya Roza silk combine; P.Ye. Dikarev, first secretary of Zhdanovskiy Raykom; L.V. Petrov, chairman of the Moscow City Trade Union Council; G.V. Makarevich, chief of the Moscow City Main Architectural and Planning Administration; V.F. Promyslov, chairman of Moscow Gorispolkom; N.I, Tropnikov, driver at the No 2 motor vehicle combine of the Moscow City Soviet Main Administration of Motor Vehicle Transportation; N.N. Tarasov, USSR minister of light industry, and others.

The conference heard and approved the credentials commission's report delivered by its chairman I.B. Bugayev.

(The reports and the delegates' speeches are published in abridged form).

Greetings telegrams were addressed to the conference from the SED's Berlin Bezirk Committee, the MSZMP's Budapest City Committee, the CPCZ's Prague City Committee, the BCP's Sofia City Committee, the MPRP's Ulaanbaatar City Committee and the PZPR's Warsaw Committee.

Greetings were also received from the Leningradskiy and Moskovskiy Obkoms, the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of Kazakhstan, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Latvia, oblast and city party organizations and committees and rayons of Moscow, as well as greetings messages, congratulations and labor reports from party, soviet, trade union and economic organs, collectives of industrial enterprises, construction projects, scientific establishments and educational institutions, creative and public organizations, communists, Komsomol members, young people, servicemen and working people of the capital.

An exhibition has been set up in the foyer of the Hall of Columns at the House of Unions, demonstrating the achievements of the capital's working people in developing the economy, science and culture during the time that has elapsed since the 25th CPSU Congress and the 23d conference of the city party organization.

The conference continues its work today.

RASHIDOV ATTENDS GOODS EXHIBITION IN TASHKENT

LD231705 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 13 Jan 81 p 1

[UZTAG report: "Increase in Consumer Goods--A Paramount Task"]

[Excerpts] To consider increasing production and raising the quality of consumer goods as a prarmount task for all industrial sectors and all enterprises and organizations and as an object of special concern for all party, soviet and economic organs--hundreds of the republic's production collectives have perceived these lines from the CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th party congress as a combat program. Year by year Uzbekistan's enterprises are increasing the production of consumer goods, expanding their range and improving their quality. Yesterday's exhibition in Tashkent of articles from a number of Uzbekistan's industrial sectors was a unique account of the measures aimed at an all-round increase in the output of goods.

The exhibition of new goods was viewed by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee; I.G. Anisimkin, A.U. Salimov, I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, A.A. Khodzhayev, N.D. Khudayberdyyev, G.M. Orlov and S.U. Sultanova, members and candidate members of the Uzbek CP Central Committee Bureau; and A.R. Khodzhayev, deputy chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers.

In a talk which took place, Sh. R. Rashidov dwelt on production collectives' tasks for increasing consumer goods output. Attention was paid to the need for the further raising of labor productivity and the mobilizing of existing production reserves, which will make it possible to fulfill and overfulfill the adopted socialist pledges on the stepping up of deliveries of consumer goods and on increasing the production of goods bearing the mark of quality.

ZHAKUPOV APPOINTED ALMA-ATA GORKOM FIRST SECRETARY

LD231425 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jan 81 p 1

[AZTAG report: "Alma-Ata Gorkom Plenum"]

[Text] An Alma-Ata Gorkom plenum has been held to consider an organizational matter.

In connection with his appointment to another post the plenum released T.G. Mukhamed-Rakhimov from the post of gorkom first secretary and Bureau member.

The plenum elected A.K. Zhakupov gorkom first secretary.

The plenum was attended by O.S. Miroshkhin, second secretary of the Kazakh CP Central Committee; and K.M. Aukhadiyev, member of the Kazakh CP Central Committee Bureau and first secretary of the Alma-Atinskiy Obkom.

KIRGIZ FRUIT, VEGETABLE FARMING MINISTRY FORMED

LD261528 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0030 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Frunze--A republican ministry of fruit and vegetable farming has been set up in Kirgizia.

Over 500,000 tons of produce is being procured by kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the republic. The creation of the new ministry will facilitate improvement in the organization and purchase of vegetable production and processing, as well as in the increase of output of preserves and an improvement in their quality.

TURKMEN SUPREME SOVIET APPOINTS TWO MINISTERS

LD231449 [Editorial Report] Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian on 17 January 1981 front-pages two Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees both datelined Ashkhabad, 13 January announcing the appointment of Akhmed Khatamov as Turkmen SSR minister of fruit and vegetable farming and Meretmamet Khudaykuliyev as Turkmen SSR minister of the timber industry.

OSHSKIY OBKOM PLENUM ELECTS NEW OFFICIALS

LD231649 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 16 Jan 81 p 1

[KIRTAG report: "Oshskiy Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] An Oshskiy Obkom plenum was held in 15 January 1981. The plenum examined organizational questions.

In connection with his election the post of chairman of the Kirgiz SSR Superme Soviet Presidium, the plenum released Comrade T. Kh. Koshoyev from his duties as first secretary and Bureau member of the Oshskiy Obkom.

The plenum elected Comrade V.A. Makarenko, previously second secretary of the Oshskiy Obkom, to the post of first secretary of the Oshskiy Obkom.

Comrade R.S. Kulmatov, previously chief of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Transportation and Communications Department, was elected second secretary and Bureau member of the Oshskiy Obkom.

K. Ye. Fomichenko, second secretary of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee, took part in the plenum's work.

KUTYRKIN APPOINTED MOLDAVIAN GOSPLAN CHAIRMAN

LD231529 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 15 Jan 81 p 1

[Text] The Moldavian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

To appoint Comrade Vladislav Georgiyevich Kutyrkin deputy chairman of the Moldavian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Moldavian Gosplan, relieving him of his duties as chairman of the Moldavian State Committee on Prices.

[Signed] I. Kalin, chairman of the Moldavian Superme Soviet Presidium; A. Melnik, secretary of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet Presidium; Kishinev, 14 January 1981.

RSFSR OBKOM, KRAYKOM PLENUMS ELECT SECRETARIES

LD261147 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 20 January 81 carries on page two a 2,500-word roundup by a PRAVDA correspondent on kray and oblast party conferences. The roundup concludes as follows:

"At organizational plenums the following were elected first secretaries of kraykoms and obkoms: P.S. Fedirko--Krasnoyarskiy Kraykom; V.S. Murakhovskiy--Stavropolskiy Kraykom; M.Z. Shakirov--Bashkirskiy Obkom.

"Conferences were held in other places also. At organizational plenums the following were elected first secretaries of kraykoms and obkoms: N.F. Aksenov--Altayskiy Kraykom; V.P. Lomakin--Primorskiy Kraykom; A.U. Modogoyev--Buryatskiy Obkom; A.N. Balandin--Orenburgskiy Obkom; B.V. Konoplev--Permskiy Obkom; N.S. Priyezzhev--Ryazanskiy Obkom; K. Kamalov--Karakalpalskiy Obkom; A.S. Drygin--Vologodskiy Obkom; Yu. N. Khristoradnov--Gorkovskiy Obkom; I.I. Senkin--Karelskiy Obkom; I.P. Morozov--Komi Obkom; S.I. Manyakin--Omskiy Obkom; S.S. Avramenko--Amurskiy Obkom; and V.K. Gusev--Saratovskiy Obkom."

AZERBAIJAN FORMS NEW MINISTRY, APPOINTS MINISTER

LD231443 [Editorial Report] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian on 16 January 1981 front-pages two Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees dated 15 January. One transforms the Azerbaijan SSR Main Administration of the cotton-cleaning industry into the Azerbaijan SSR union republic Ministry of the Cotton-Cleaning Industry. The other appoints Fakhrat Rza Ogly Salmanov minister of the cotton-cleaning industry.

SEIDOV ELECTED AZERBAIJAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

LD231542 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Baku, 23 Jan, TASS--The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan has appointed Gasan Seidov as chairman of the Council of Ministers of that Soviet Transcaucasian republic.

Gasan Seidov, 48, who is an engineer by profession, has worked for a long time at a mill. He rose from assistant foreman to director of a big mechanical engineering works. Over the recent ten years Gasan Seidov worked as secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, where he was in charge of industry. He is deputy of the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan.

Ali Ibragimov has been relieved from the post of chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic in connection with his retirement on pension.

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS KOPELEV ON DISSIDENTS

DW261106 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 26 Jan 81 pp 112-114

[Fritjof Meyer and Klaus Reinghardt interview with expatriated Soviet writer Lev Kopelev at SPIEGEL's Bonn office, date not specified, interview carried out in German]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Mr Kopelev, by order of the Supreme Soviet you and your wife lost your citizenship, as did Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and Zhores Medvedev earlier and your writer colleague Vassiliy Aksyonov just now. Do you have any explanation for this?

Kopelev: This happened to many others as well: General Grigorenko who flew to New York for surgery, my friend Viktor Nekrasov, the excellent writer, and others, all of whom had been promised an option to return. I thought that our authorities had grown more reasonable. I did observe the condition not to make any political utterances after my exit on 10 November.

SPIEGEL: Did the political situation at the time of your exit warrant any hope for commonsense?

Kopelev: In our country everything is unpredictable, yet despite Afghanistan and despite Poland improvements took place last year. Literary works were published whose appearance still had been inconceivable a few years back.

SPIEGEL: The journal NOVY MIR carried texts of "Zhivago" by author Pasternak...

Kopelev: Well, he has been dead for a long time. In our country the dead writers always are the safest. But there are some living...

SPIEGEL: Your case, Mr Kopelev, is unusual: You are not affiliated with any dissident group, you exercised political restraint in the USSR and also after your arrival in the Federal Republic, and besides you are friends with influential men like Willy Brandt, who visited you in Moscow in 1975, and Heinrich Boell.

Kopelev: After all, my wife and I a year ago protested against the deportation of Nobel Peace Prize winner Sakharov.

SPIEGEL: Just as many others did as well. But is there any connection between the expatriation and your book "Comfort My Sadness" which will be published in the Federal Republic in the near future and which describes your camp detention?

Kopelev: Definitely not; in our society the authorities responsible for coercive measures are others than those reading books. After all, we are a class state. A few years ago the state security organs passed word of warning to me through "go-betweens" the official status: "Emigrate or keep your mouth shut. For others like Germanist Etkind they even obtained an invitation from Israel and thus got him out of the country.

SPIEGEL: You stayed in the country.

Kopelev: If necessary I intended to prefer deportation to exile even though I know that they would not have sent me to the big city of Gorkiy as they did Sakharov but to some forsaken Siberian place without any libraries and connections with Moscow. But now I feel satisfaction, for there are two sides to any coin: My Soviet passport was good only for the trip to the Federal Republic and not for other countries.

SPIEGEL: Which country would you like to pick now for your exile?

Kopelev: The Federal Republic.

SPIEGEL: Because you are speaking German?

Kopelev: I am close to German culture, Germany has been the country of my dreams since childhood. To me the carefully preserved ruins of a Roman court under the Cologne City Hall are a symbol: the foundations of a state of justice, of ancient Rome.

SPIEGEL: Which you, being a Russian, miss because Russia has never taken over Roman law just as it did not take over the Renaissance and Enlightenmen ages?

Kopelev: Unfortunately, yet Russia's intellectuals have always considered themselves Europeans and were always oriented toward the West.

SPIEGEL: In your book "To Be Preserved Forever!" you describe in detail the atrocities committed in 1945 during the advance of the Russian soldiers to central Europe. What or who made the Soviet soldiers behave that way? The book does not provide any conclusive answer.

Kopelev: The brutes, pillages, murderers naturally were but a minority of the Red Army, above all coming from the rear guard and echelon rather than from the combat troops. I believe that all soldiers marching forward are intoxicated by victory. Our young soldiers who were sent to the front directly from school had learned nothing but shooting and stabbing.

In East Prussia and Silesia, however, crimes were also committed because the embitterment was quite great: The soldiers had liberated their country in which the German occupiers had played havoc. I personally saw the gallows and mass graves. My grandparents and my aunt were among the 40,000 Jewish people murdered in Babi Jar in 1941.

SPIEGEL: Vengeance, hence...

Kopelev: ...Which was also propagandized officially. In the last years of the war no difference was made anymore between "Germans and "fascists." The line above the title of the newspaper PRAVDA no longer read "Proletarians of all countries, unite" but "Death to the German occupiers!" I was arrested because I objected to this chauvinist propaganda in the Political Department of the front staff. Just keep this in mind: Stalin granted the permission that each soldier, depending on his rank, was allowed to send a 5-kilogram or 10-kilogram package home.

SPIEGEL: Permission to pillage?

Kopelev: What could a soldier send home anyway--his old socks or the bread he had not eaten? The ones that suffer always generalize and take a dozen scoundrels for "the Russians" or "the Germans."

SPIEGEL: Did they not, above all, resent your description of these occurrences because the glorious Red Army thereby had been soiled?

Kopelev: I heard such accusations only from war comrades and not officially from authorities. After all, it is not Marxists or communists that rule our country but, as I call it, the armchair party, the "status quo advocates" who are interested only in maintaining their positions. Granted, they are chauvinists, yet what they held against me much more was what I said about the present and what conclusions I draw from my past.

SPIEGEL: At the time you expiated your protest with 10 year's labor-camp detention and this time you got away with a sort of expulsion. Many Soviet dissients lately fared much worse: According to an Amnesty International report just published 200 dissidents in the past 15 months were sentenced to prison terms of up to 15 years. Is the protest scene being cleaned up for good?

Kopelev: That was often announced. Some 3 years ago I received a warning that a decision had been made to eventually make an end to the so-called dissidents. If they would not keep quiet, they would be placed in a camp or deported to a foreign country--I was supposed to make up my mind. But our enlightener Novikov said 200 years ago: Russia's luck lies in the poor execution of poor regulations.

SPIEGEL: Are there any visible criteria how an opposition figure is being handled today--some are being imprisoned, others just deported in the country and others again expatriated?

Kopelev: No local or temporal rules can be seen. it is completely irrational. One can get 10 years in Kiev for something that would be punished in Moscow just by an admonition or by expulsion from the party. Our authorities never managed to handle the dissidents and they never will.

SPIEGEL: Is it because the security organs feel insecure?

Kopelev: They do not yet have as much authority as at Stalin's times. There is something like bureaucratic pluralism in our country, sometimes to the advantage and sometimes to the disadvantage of the citizen.

I know a case where a young public prosecutor acted with much self-confidence vis-a-vis the KGB, which wants slight violations to be heavily punished, demanding just some slight punishment in the trial. Our dissidents do not commit crimes: They just say the truth and demand adherance to existing laws.

SPIEGEL: New methods exist to make people appear as criminals who think differently: Kiril Podrabinek of the Commission for the Investigation of the Misuse of Psychiatry for Political Purposes was charged with the illegal possession of arms--although he was sitting in a labor camp in East Siberia for 5 years.

Kopelev: Someone had allegedly found a few cartridges on him.

SPIEGEL: The Germanist Konstantin Asadovskiy from Leningrad and his wife were arrested because someone had searched the house and allegedly found 5 grams of hashish.

Kopelev: Although Asadovskiy, whom I know, is not a dissident at all: he just maintains contacts with foreigners and has dissidents among his friends. I know a case from Kiev where a girl with a pie in her hand bumped purposefully into a dissident in the street, throwing the pie at his feet and yelling for help. He was accused of rape.

SPIEGEL: One must construe pretexts...

Kopelev: ...To keep one's face vis-a-vis the outer world. I am curious to hear SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA stated last year that I was receiving food and clothing from the German Embassy, almost like a spy; I was said to be a "Judas disguised as Don Quixote." I was never in the embassy prior to my visa application.

SPIEGEL: Mr Kopelev, what is the reason for the current intensified reprisals?

Kopelev: Mainly the events in Poland; our leadership does not know what to make of it. I would not like to be in Brezhnev's place. Our working people are very much interested in the Polish events. The demonstration of thousands of people in Estonia was certainly caused by the fact that Finnish television programs can be received in Estonia, that means also reports on Poland. Since last August, all foreign radio programs are being purposefully jammed in Russia. One can also hear criticism of the Poles voiced in the Soviet Union: We have no meat and we do not strike, while the Poles go on strike just because of higher prices.

SPIEGEL: Why do the Poles react so differently to shortcomings than the Russians?

Kopelev: They have other state political traditions. Poland is a Western country where even in feudal times democracy existed among the nobility. They are traditionally rebellious...

SPIEGEL: The Russians have also revolted most spontaneously in 1905 and in February 1917.

Kopelev: Until the Bolshevist counterrevolution was victorious in October 1917, following tsarist traditions from the very first day. The Russians love freedom and strive for it as much as the Poles, but they were ruled for centuries in a much more totalitarian way than the Poles.

SPIEGEL: How must one understand it that the people of the Soviet Union accept your system without contradiction?

Kopelev: First of all the living standard improved tangibly in the last 20 years, even if the situation has deteriorated in the past 3 years.

In some areas the people are relatively well off materially--in the Caucasus, Central Asia, sometimes in the Ukraine, in Moldavia, but not in Russia itself. But the people are hopeful.

SPIEGEL: How can it be explained that the same problems which still make the Soviet citizens hopeful, have made the Poles rebel three times in the past years?

Kopelev: Rebellions have taken place in the Soviet Union as well, such as 1960 in Novocherkassk and then in Kazakhstan. Blood was shed there. In last May warning strikes had taken place in automobile plants.

SPIEGEL: Do you think it possible that the Russian proletariat might eventually react like the Polish?

Kopelev: We have no proletariat. Karl Marx once said that the proletariat is a class "for itself." We have no proletarians in this sense but only state employees and workers of the state acting as the employer, also no peasants any more but dependent farmhands. But nobody knows what could happen tomorrow.

SPIEGEL: Why must the Soviet leadership be afraid of this Polish example?

Kopelev: Fear is a strange thing. I would like to tell you an example from my own prison time. In all prisons where I was kept, one rule existed: On 1 May and on 7 November of every year the cells were searched and prisoners who were considered particularly dangerous were isolated. That was the fear of the prison wardens out of tradition, because in czarist times it was usual that the prisoners revolted on 1 May and on the state holiday, and that was still the case in the twenties when most of the prisoners were socialists, revolutionaries, Trotskyists--they demonstrated on the Revolution holiday.

SPIEGEL: The rules of the prison wardens remained; is fear hereditary?

Kopelev: Why is one so much afraid of burials in our country? In the last century demonstrations were taking place at the burial of the poet Nikolay Nekrasov. Pushkin's coffin was also secretly removed from Petersbourg. And now, when Ehrenberg and Paustovskiy were buried, there were great numbers of militiamen around. When the poet Tvardovskiy was buried, a division of riflemen was mobilized who encircled everything.

SPIEGEL: Would the Soviet populace accept it without contradiction if its government were to intervene militarily in Poland--with all possible consequences, such as maybe thousands of casualties?

Kopelev: I do not know, conditional historical problems have become unimaginable for me. One can be certain though that the Poles will defend themselves. I know the Poles, I was there for half a year in the war. They are a great and noble people. One can predict that an invasion would be a cruel fate which could not be managed either militarily or economically.

SPIEGEL: Did detente policy help or harm the critics of the Soviet system in the country?

Kopelev: In our country everyone does not agree on that, but I am convinced it has helped. During Stalin's times and in the first years of Khushchev, when no detente existed, the Soviet citizens could not even dream of the things that became possible thereafter. It was due to detente that we were not brought to Lefortovo Prison or the place in Siberia.

I do not share the opinion of some of my friends that one should not have a pact with the devil. I share Bert Brecht's opinion: The one who is dining with the devil must have a long spoon.

SPIEGEL: Mr Kopolev, we thank you for this talk.

VIENNA PAPER ON 1980 DEMONSTRATIONS IN ESTONIA

AU261615 Vienna KURIER in German 26 Jan 81 p 3

[Wolfgang Broer "Exclusive Report" on anti-Soviet youth demonstrations in Estonian SSR in September/October 1980]

[Summary] "Through intricate channels, KURIER has for the first time received detailed information about demonstrations in the Estonian SSR. They were much larger than the first reports seemed to indicate. "Some parents were visited directly by KGB officers in uniform at their homes, most others merely received written summons from the school directors to attend a meeting in connection with 'the recent events.'" Everyone who received such summons knew what was meant by "recent events." Worried parents of tens of thousands of students gathered at the Estonian schools. There they were shown a film made by the KGB of secondary school students' demonstrations, asked to identify students known to them, and warned that a lack of cooperation might entail the loss of their jobs.

The first demonstrations took place on 22 September 1980 in the capital of Tallinn. What excited the students then was the authorities' banning a performance of the "Propeller" pop group at Dynamo Stadium. "The young people showed up nevertheless, about a thousand of them. They came to blows with the militia who forcibly dispersed the demonstrators. The direct result was that several students from the highest grades were expelled from school.

"On 1 and 3 October, there was another mass demonstration of students, primarily from the polytechnical school. Some 5,000 young people between 15 and 18 years old gathered on the square in front of the city administration, and also at the Baltic Railroad Station and at Harju Hill. Countless little blue, black and white flags, the colors of independent Estonia, were waved by the demonstrators who chanted 'Freedom for Estonia,' 'Truth and Justice" and 'Out with the Russians.' Moreover, they called for better heating the classrooms and better school snacks. "The militia, that had been quickly reinforced, took action. The demonstrators were beaten with wooden clubs and rubber truncheons; and retaliated by throwing stones. As many as 150 of them were temporarily arrested, but were released after their names and addresses were registered. Only 10 persons remained in police custody. One of them is known by name--Alan Sepp, born in 1963, a student of the polytechnical school. He was charged with 'hooliganism' under Section 195 of the Penal Code.

"The Tallinn radio station on 7 October spoke of 'riots' and declared that the state prosecutor's office had brought charges against the 'initiators and activists.' At TAllinn's schools, 'purges' began. The KGB sent the directors lists of students to be expelled. This led to new demonstrations on 7 and 8 October. This time the students demanded the release of arrested fellow students and an end to the 'purges.' The riots spread beyond the capital--in Tartu and Pjarnu 300-400 students demonstrated in the streets displaying national flags and slogans like 'Freedom for Estonia,' and calling for the resignation of the newly appointed Russian education minister of Estonia, Elsa Grechkina.

"On 11 October Estonia's Interior Minister Marko Tibar emphatically and threateningly warned against further 'demonstrations' in a television broadcast. The top KGB chief, Andropov, rushed from Moscow to Tallinn and personally took charge of the 'consolidation measures.'"

Now things are quiet again in Estonia. The purges at the schools continue, so-called ringleaders are awaiting their trials, and dissidents are sentenced and sent to camps.

SOVIET POWER MINISTER VIEWS INDUSTRY'S PROSPECTS

LD261141 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 3, 16 Jan 81 pp 19-20

[Correspondent V. Rozen interview with P.S. Neporozhniy, USSR minister of power and electrification, under the rubric "Talk With a Competent Person": "Soviet Power Industry: The Present and the Future"]

[Text] The 5-year plan has ended and the foundation is being laid for the Soviet economy's further planned growth. A key role here is played by power. How is this basic sector of the national economy developing? That was the subject of the talk which NOVOYE VREMYA correspondent V. Rozen had with P.S. Neporozhniy, USSR minister of power and electrification and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

NOVOYE VREMYA. It seems to us, Petr Stepanovich, that it would be right to start our talk with the sources of the soviet land's electrification--the State Committee for the Electrification of Russia [Goelro]--all the more so since it reaches its 60th anniversary recently.

P.S. Neporozhniy. Yes, we not only have a great holiday but a fine pretext for turning to the very start of Russian's electrification in the Soviet period. In December we celebrated Goelro's 60th anniversary. This plan is of tremendous historic significance and not only for our country. In essence it was the world's first state plan for the development of a state's economy on the basis of electrification. The principles of electrification as a sector and its paramount national economic significance were defined at the initiative and under the leadership of L.I. Lenin. That is why we call the Goelro plan Lenin's plan.

This plan retains its permanent significance under the conditions of the modern socialist economy. Why? Let us turn to its basic provisions. They are the preferential development of electric power engineering compared with other industries, the concentration of capacities, the centralization of the distribution of electricity, the comprehensive development of economic regions on the basis of local energy and raw-material resources, and the preferential utilization of organic solid fuels. Surely they have not lost their fundamental significance in our day? Of course not. This profoundly conceived economic policy also has tremendous social significance.

NOVOYE VREMYA. The CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th CPSU Congress, "The Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-85 and for the Period Through 1990" which is now being discussed nationwide sets very problematic but at the same time perfectly specific tasks for electric power. How do the power workers assess the volume of their work?

P.S. Neporozhniy. Above all I shall note that the country's army of power workers considers the Central Committee draft figures to be very rigorous but essential for the preferential development of electric power--the key sector of the national economy determining the provision of power for the national economy on the scale outlined by the "Basic Guidelines." We have never counted on any one source of power, on oil, for instance, as happens in many Western states. Coal, oil, gas, hydraulic energy and in recent decades nuclear energy--we have used all these extensively and will continue to do so. The "Basic Guidelines" provide for the extensive development of nuclear power in the European part of the country, the development of new fuel and energy complexes in eastern regions and the use of hydraulic energy resources everywhere.

At the same time, in connection with the fact that the main fuel stocks are concentrated in the east, the construction of new condensation thermal power stations has been halted in the European part of the USSR.

In the east of the country, beyond the Urals, the richest stocks of coal, gas and oil are concentrated. That is why it is preceisely these regions which account for the main increase in fuel extraction. There we are installing powerful thermal power stations run on cheap coals hined by the opencut method in Ekibastuz and Kanska-Achinsk. Thermal power stations are also being constructed using Tyumenskaya Oblast's gas.

During the past 5-year plan period very large-scale GRES's--the Sayano-Shushenskaya, Inguri and others--began to operate.

The problem of transferring electricity over long distances occupies a considerable place in our work. Superlong power transmission lines operating at 1.15 million volts AC and at 1.5 million volts DC are being installed to transfer electricity from the east to the center of the country. No other country has such superlong lines.

NOVOYE VREMYA. Nuclear power engineering is generating great hopes and heated arguments throughout the world. Our country is paying special attention to it. Please describe the prospect for the development of this "subsector," so to speak of your sector, Petr Stepanovich.

P.S. Neporozhniy. For us arguments about nuclear power engineering are a stage we have long since passed. We deliberately link the future of Soviet power primarily with the expansion of the construction of nuclear power stations. As early as 1981 electricity capacities in the European part of the country will increase by means of power stations of precisely this type. By the end of the 11th 5-Year Plan the annual commissioning of capacities at AES's will reach 7-8 million kilowatts. Alongside the extensive development of large-scale condensation AES's it is planned to construct nuclear TETS's and nuclear thermal supply stations.

Nuclear power is at present at the first stage of its development--thermal neutron reactors are being used. At the next stage fast neutron reactors will be installed. The expanded reproduction of nuclear fuel occurs in these reactors and the efficiency of the utilization of natural uranium is increased several dozen times.

The world's biggest fast neutron reactor with a capacity of 600,000 kilowatts was commissioned last year at the Beloyarsk AES.

The reliable operation of nuclear and thermal power stations in the grids is linked to a considerable extent with their even loading. But as is well known, energy consumption falls off at night and on nonworking days. That is why we are planning the construction of large-scale water storage power stations. They will consume electricity when loads fall off and will generate it when loads increase. The water storage power stations will help the even and reliable operation of AES's.

NOVOYE VREMYA. But a great deal of machinery and equipment is needed for this development of nuclear power. In that sense, what do you expect from Atommash?

P.S. Neporozhniy. Of course, you are right in saying that the development of nuclear power is impossible without the creation of a modern machine building base. It is for this that our country is erecting Atommash--the world's largest nuclear machine building plant. Each year it will produce eight reactors of the vessel type with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts each. That is a very impressive volume. The first section of the plant has already been commissioned and we are looking toward its further development with optimism.

NOVOYE VREMYA. The specialized press throughout the world is writing a great deal about the successes achieved on Soviet devices of the Tokamak type. Can you count, in the foreseeable future, on obtaining practical results of industrial significance?

P.S. Neporozhniy. In 1979 at the CPSU Central Committee November plenum L.I. Brezhnev raised the question of the need for the further development of promising power sources. The most tempting is the development of the energy of thermonuclear synthesis. A large amount of scientific research work is now under way and considerable successes have been achieved. This applies particularly to the device of the Tokamak type. This problem, however, is very complex and the practical utilization of the first thermonuclear devices for the generation of electricity and thermal energy will not be until after 1990, it seems to me.

NOVOYE VREMYA. But what is happening in hydraulic power engineering--a sphere which provides the cheapest energy?

P.S. Neporozhniy. The energy potential of large rivers is so far being well used in the European part of the country. But in the east of our state there are tremendous stocks of unused hydraulic power. It is in these regions that it is planned to construct large-scale GES's with large-capacity water reservoirs.

Following the very large Sayano-Shushenskaya GES, the Bdgushanskaya Sredne-Yeniseyskaya, Turukhanskaya and other GES's will be installed on the big rivers of Siberia and the Far East. The overall capacity of the stations of the Angara-Yenisey cascade alone will reach 50 million kilowatts in the future and the annual generation of electricity will be in excess of 200 billion kilowatt-hours.

The electricity generated in the east is intended not only to satisfy the requirements of this rapidly developing region. It will also travel to the European part of the country. As I have already said, for this we are using ultra-long-distance power lines operating at 1.15 kilovolts AC and at 1.5 kilovolts DC (2.25 kilovolts in the long term). The use of these voltages will make it possible to transmit 5-6 million kilowatts and in the long term 13 million kilowatts along each line over a distance of 2,500-3,000 km.

It is important to note that this method of energy transmission is not only the cheapest. It also makes it possible to transport energy with minimal losses, although it must be noted that we have to erect these lines under very harsh climatic conditions.

NOVOYE VREMYA. You mentioned the problem connected with the use of the Kansk-Achinsk coals. Can you describe this in more detail?

P.S. Neporochniy. At present we are very attracted by the possibility of using cheap coals at the places where they are mined to generate electricity and subsequently transmit it to the regions where it is consumed. Specialists consider the Kansk-Achinsk fuel and energy complex to be the most promising in this respect. It is also planned to organize coal conversion geared to power technology. With this method high-quality fuel and several types of valuable chemical raw material will be produced from poor-quality coal. This will be a quite considerable step forward compared simply with burning fuel in furnaces. The volume of forthcoming work here may be judged by the fact that in this coal basin we are to construct 10 power stations with a capacity of 6.4 million kilowatts each. The construction of the first such station has already been launched.

NOVOYE VREMYA. What could be added about Ekibastuz?

P.S. Neporozhniy. Work is in full swing at the Ekibastuz fuel and energy complex where five power stations with a total capacity of 20 million kilowatts are to be constructed. Surmounting a certain lag connected with difficulties in developing uninhabited desert terrain, we have already commissioned, in the year 1980 which has just ended, two power units with a capacity of 500,000 kilowatts each and have prepared for the commissioning of block No 3.

NOVOYE VREMYA. How do matters stand with regard to the use of renewable sources of energy--solar and geothermal energy?

P.S. Neporozhniy. The use of solar energy is of great interest since it makes it possible to save organic fuel. Among the positive qualities of solar energy we should include its exceptional cleanliness, the lack of any harmful waste products in its utilization.

Several experimental solar devices for heating premises and obtaining hot water are already in operation in the country. In the 11th 5-year plan it is also planned to install an experimental solar power station with a capacity of 5,000 kilowatts in the Crimea. Calculations ahve shown that the use of solar devices in the country's southern regions to obtain thermal energy could produce a saving of 15-20 million tons of fuel a year.

As for geothermal energy, 50 major goethermal regions have been discovered in the USSR. The heat from subterranean waters is so far being used mainly for municipal and consumer service purposes and for hothouse farms in a number of regions of Dagestan, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Kamchatka.

In the 11th 5-Year Plan the first section of the Mutnovskaya geothermal power station will be constructed on Kamchatka, where the Pauzhetskaya geothermal power station is already operating.

NOVOYE VREMYA. The Western press sometimes publishes fabrications about impending difficulties for the Soviet Union in the energy sphere. What can you say about this?

P.S. Neporozhniy. The Soviet Union has tremendous fueld and energy resources. They are perfectly adequate to satisfy all long-term requirements both for domestic consumption and for export. Within the framework of socialist economic integration the Soviet Union is exporting electricity to the socialist countries via the "peace" system and is also supply them with oil and gas. We also export electricity, gas and oil to several capitalist countries.

However, our resources are distributed extremely unevenly. About 80 percent are in the country's eastern regions, while 80 percent of energy is consumed in the European part. The bulk of the increase in oil, gas and coal extraction is accounted for by Siberia. There too, mighty rivers flow yet their hydraulic resouces, as I have already said, are so far being underused. Our difficulties thus consist not in the shortage of energy resources but in the need to transfer them in enormous quantities over great distances.

Power transmission line transportation [elektronnyy transport] is called on to play a considerable part in resolving this problem. In the long term the transmission of electricity from the east to the west of the Soviet Union will resolve the electricity supply problem. It is already beginning to be implemented through the channels of the USSR unified power grid. An enormous load in terms of fuel transportation will be lifted from rail and pipeline transportation. The country's fuel and energy resources will thus be balanced in the foreseeable future.

BRIEFS

MOTOR VEHICLES--Moscow, 25 Jan, TASS--It has been decided to expand considerably work on testing and designing electromobiles and electrobuses in the Soviet Union, Aleksey Borzunov, USSR deputy minister of the automobile industry, said in a conversation with a TASS correspondent. Factories will be turning out a new consignment of these vehicles this year. They will include a number of vans from the Vozhskiy automotive works which produces the renowned Zhigulis. An electromobile experimental production unit for 250-300 vehicles has been proposed for Moscow. Borzunov also noted that work in using liquified gas as a motor fuel, which would reduce harmful waste by 2-3 times, is being continued. Production on a large scale of motor vehicles and buses running on liquified gas will start in the new 5-year period (1981-85). [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1220 GMT 25 Jan 81 LD]

REPORTAGE ON FLIGHT OF PROGRESS-12 SPACECRAFT

Launch Data

LD241620 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jan, TASS--An automatic cargo delivery spacecraft, the Progress-12, was launched in the Soviet Union at 1718. Moscow time, today in accordance with the programme for ensuring the further functioning of the orbital scientific station Salyut-6.

The delivery spacecraft was put into an orbit with the maximum distance from the earth's surface being 299 km, the minimum distance--18 km. Its orbital period is 89.1 min, and orbital inclination--51.6 degrees.

According to telemetry data, the onboard systems of the Progress-12 spacecraft are functioning normally.

Docking With Salyut-6

LD261730 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jan, TASS--The unmanned freight transport spaceship Progress-12 docked the orbital scientific station Salyut-6 at 18 hours 56 minutes Moscow time today. The station has been in outer space for more than three years.

The mutual search, approach, mooring and docking of the spacecraft were carried out by commands from the Flight Control Center and with the help of the onboard automatic equipment.

The ground command and measurement means, including measurement stations on Soviet territory and research vessels of the USSR Academy of Sciences in the world ocean, provided reliable control of the Progress-12--Salyut-6 docking.

Progress-12 has docked the station on the side of the power unit compartment. It has delivered fuel for the unitized power system and other consumable materials essential for the further functioning of Salyut-6.

According to telemetric data, the onboard systems of Salyut-6 and Progress-12 are functioning normally.

PORTABLE LASERS, LASER DEVELOPMENT VIEWED

LD211039 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 18 January 1981 in its Morning Edition publishes on page 2 a 700-word article by T. Tomilchik, senior engineer at the Belorussian SSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Physics, under the headline "The Portable Laser." Tomilchik extols the virtues of the "Gnom" portable laser created by the institute, noting its relative cheapness, efficiency and versatility, and gives a brief outline of the history of lasers and their miniaturization.